

THE

Nonconformist.

THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION.

Vol. XXXI.—NEW SERIES, No. 1318.]

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1871.

PRICE { UNSTAMPED.... 5s.
STAMPED 5s.1d.

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Ecclesiastical Affairs.

THE UNIVERSITIES' TESTS BILL.

ON Monday night this Bill passed through Committee in the House of Commons unaltered. Within a week, we suppose, it will be sent up to the House of Lords in precisely the same shape as that of the measure which their Lordships laid on the shelf last Session. Mr. Gladstone gave elaborate reasons to his supporters why he deemed it just to the other House to conclude that it had not definitively rejected the Bill of last year, and why, therefore, he thought it but fair that it should have an opportunity of deliberately pronouncing its judgment upon the measure, before the scope of it is enlarged. There is no doubt that in coming to the conclusion thus to deal with the House of Peers, he regarded himself, as First Minister of the Crown, as placed under an obligation which was, at least technically, binding upon him, and it sometimes happens with Mr. Gladstone that, by a process of casuistry which has peculiar charms for his mind, he converts a technical into a moral obligation. At any rate, he gave some of his followers clearly to understand a few days before the opening of the Session that if the Government were to take charge of the Bill it must be on condition that no new matter should be imported into it, and he left it as a question to be decided by their responsibility, whether it should be introduced and pressed through all its stages as a Government measure, unaltered in the provisions it contained last year, or whether it should fall back again into the hands of some independent member to do the best he could with it in a logically completer shape. Of course, the choice thus submitted to the deputation which waited upon him, could only be decided in one way. Mr. Gladstone was requested to retain the Bill in his own hands, but with the full understanding that those members who desired to introduce into it such a change as would abolish the necessity of taking Holy Orders as a condition of receiving certain fellowships, would reserve to themselves perfect freedom to vote for it in Committee on the Bill. The result, on Monday night last, was not a flattering one to the Ministry. They carried their point, it is true, but the triumph which they effected by the aid of the Conservatives, was effected over no fewer than 160 of their own

supporters, and was limited, after all, to a narrow majority of 22.

Of the substantial merits of the principal question in dispute—namely, the abolition of clerical fellowships in the Colleges—it is unnecessary to speak. Indeed, upon this point there was no great difference between the Government and its more advanced friends. Both Mr. Gladstone and Sir J. D. Coleridge fully admitted that it is a matter which must seriously be dealt with before long, but contended that it is but a fragment of a much larger reform which will hereafter demand the notice of Parliament. The remarks suggested to us by Monday night's proceedings in Committee will have relation rather to the principle regulating the conduct of Her Majesty's Ministers to the large party which they represent, than to the desirableness of doing away with an immoral and indefensible practice. The purity and conscientiousness of Mr. Gladstone's motives nobody will be likely to call into question. The practical wisdom of the course which he has more than once pursued is certainly open to criticism. No doubt his responsibility extends to other concerns besides those which grow out of his connection with his party. It may be admitted that, as First Minister of the Crown, he owes reverence to the traditional claims of every institution of the country, and it becomes his duty, as far as possible, to reconcile his own mode of procedure with such claims. We cannot think, however, that he is bound to postpone the strong desire of the party which placed him in his present position to little matters of etiquette, as between the two Houses, which, occasionally, are "more honoured in the breach than th' observance." We do not remember any former Prime Minister having asserted, or acted upon, the tactical maxim which Mr. Gladstone has asserted for himself. We see no necessity for straining the ordinary respect due from Her Majesty's Ministers to the House of Lords to such an extent as would forbid the recasting of a measure once sent up to them, simply because they have previously evaded recording against it a negative decision. It strikes us as a fanciful and an unusual interpretation of the claims which the hereditary branch of the Legislature has upon the Representative House. It involves, assuredly, no constitutional problem. It imposes no paramount obligation. It may, under conceivable circumstances, assume the importance of a great public inconvenience. Mr. Gladstone may be right in guiding his practice by it in reference to affairs which involve no serious sacrifice of policy, but to exalt it into an inflexible rule, before which a great party must needs give place, on a question which they consider of high moment, is really to display greater strength and fidelity of conscience, than enlightened discrimination in its exercise.

The head of the Government in this country owes some allegiance to the party which placed and which continues to maintain, him in power. We do not wish for a moment to insinuate that Mr. Gladstone is insensible to the force of this obligation. We fully recognise the fact that his position necessarily makes him cognisant of difficulties which do not come within the purview of many of his friends. Still, it is not to be denied that a feeling approaching to disappointment is slowly creeping over the minds of not a few hearty adherents to the Liberal

cause. We do not speak, in this instance, of Nonconformists only, but we speak of the much larger number of men who have adopted the principle of religious equality, as one not merely of enlightened policy, but of justice. They could not reasonably expect that in applying that policy to the Irish Church, he would regard himself as under a pledge forthwith to apply it in every possible direction. They would willingly give him breathing time, and allow him his choice of opportunities. What they are disposed to complain of is that there have not been wanting, in the course pursued by the Government, indications of a tendency to repress, and, occasionally, to push back the cause of religious equality, in deference to the few of their own supporters, and to the great body of their political opponents, notwithstanding the urgent and natural expectations of the bulk of the men who sit behind them. If, for example, anything like the same considerate treatment of questions involving religious equality, had been shown towards the non-established religious communities in this country, as has been displayed towards the Roman Catholics of Ireland, the bonds of allegiance between the Liberal leader and the force which he leads, would have been closer than we fear they are at the present moment.

It cannot but be matter of notice that aid is, either directly or indirectly, extended by the Government to measures intended to strengthen the Church Establishment, and is sometimes ungenerously withheld from measures having in view a larger application of the principle of religious equality; that facilities are given to the one which are seldom accorded to the other; and that the balance of impartiality is not held firmly between them. No great harm, it may be, has arisen out of this evident Ecclesiastical leaning of the Prime Minister as yet; but, surely, he need scarcely be reminded that this is not the likeliest way of keeping his great party together. Concessions there must be between the two sections of Liberals; but they ought not always, or almost always, to be exacted from one side only. The friends of religious equality do not resort to violent methods in pursuit of their ends, but they ought not, therefore, to be dealt with as though they were indifferent to any treatment they received. In the case before us, we cannot help thinking that they have as fair a claim upon the consideration of Government as the traditional Conservatism of the House of Lords. However, this was not conceded to them. The University Tests Bill will shortly make its appearance in their Lordships' House, and we have grave doubts whether they will treat it one whit more respectfully in consequence of the rigid etiquette which has been observed towards them by the first Minister of the Crown.

ECCLIASTICAL NOTES.

PERHAPS the present Session of Convocation will prove to be, as it seems to us that it is, one of the most critical that has ever been held. We give an abridged report in another column of what has taken place. Intolerance has had its full swing, and even something more than intolerance. There can be no question whatever that the terms by which the Committee for the Revision of the Bible was appointed were wide enough to include all scholars of whatever creed. Nothing could be plainer than the words used. Acting in full, frank, and honest conformity with those terms, the Committee invited a learned

Unitarian to help them. We don't say that Convocation, from its own point of view, did not make a mistake, but it is clear that the mistake was not found out until other people had found it out for them. It astonished most Dissenters to find that the terms were liberal enough to admit of any one of their number being on the Committee, but it was quite clear that if one could be admitted all could. And so, Mr. Vance Smith was invited, and has sat, we believe some four times. He will sit no longer. Invited and welcomed by the Convocation Committee, in harmony with their invitation, he is now, on the motion of the Bishop of Winchester, cast out and ordered to "cease to act." A few members of the Upper House cannot see the necessity for this, and one most learned prelate has protested against it by resigning his own seat, but, supposing that a question of this kind could be raised, what other result could have been anticipated than that which has taken place? Dean Stanley is naturally very indignant, but Dean Stanley never yet understood the character of his own Church. He may now possibly get a glimpse of it. The men in the Upper and the Lower House of Convocation who voted for the expulsion of Mr. Smith, are faithful and honest representatives of the spirit, tone, feeling and manner of the clerical section of the community. Perhaps Mr. Vance Smith will also get a little light from this decision about himself. In the first stage of this controversy that gentleman took especial pains to state that he had no sympathy with the Liberation movement. A little more educating influence from Convocation, and perhaps his views will be changed.

Our contemporary the *Spectator*, whose dreams of Comprehension must be fast fading, seems to be utterly astonished at what has taken place with regard to this question. It even waxes indignant, with that sort of indignation which is excited on a man's receiving a blow from the hand of a reputed old friend. We should not like to write exactly in our contemporary's style, but we suppose we may quote its remarks:—

Tuesday and Wednesday's debates in the Upper House of Convocation can excite but one feeling in the minds of really thinking men, and that feeling is profound scorn. We entertain a strong attachment for the National Church, and have always tried to do justice to the Episcopal form of Church government—which might have a real meaning if the bishops had any manliness of faith or religious character; but to read such discussions as those reported in the *Guardian* of Wednesday and the *Standard* of Thursday simply fills a reasonable mind with despair. Here are a number of men, some of them learned, and all of them with a reputation for learning, in positions of dignity and authority, professing a faith which, if anything could, should teach them manliness and contempt for censure, whining over the enormous difficulty of making up their minds on the simplest matter possible without considerable notice, complaining that they have been hurried into a grave mistake which is fatal to their "sanctity," helplessly trying to undo it by a breach of faith which formally declares their own total incompetence for the simplest practical matter, and some of them interlarding their piteous lamentations over the hardship of their position with unctuous and Pharisaic assumptions of sanctity and holiness that go near to make any manly member of the English Church utterly ashamed of the Church to which he belongs;—and all because these mitred old gentlemen, or most of them, with at most four exceptions, are destitute of the honour, the sense, and the courage to stick to the obviously wise resolution deliberately taken last year, to get the assistance of the genuine scholars of all sects in the revision of the new translation of the Bible.

Who would think that such hits came from a Comprehension quarter, and from an admirer of State-Churchism both abstract and concrete?

The county which used to boast of having given birth to Blake and Raleigh appears to be resolved to make itself conspicuous in the matter of Church defence—a work in which neither Blake nor Raleigh were they living now, would, we should judge, be engaged. An apparently considerable meeting of the Devonshire Church Institution was held at Exeter last week, in which the Dean took a conspicuous part. The Dean, in a few sentences, did some justice to the motives of Dissenters, and then proceeded to attack, from that old quarry, "The Nonconformist Sketch-book," "by the well known notorious Mr. Miall." He then quoted the proposed motion for disestablishment, told his audience that the war had commenced, that they must rally round the Church and determine that it should not be borne down by calumny, by vituperation, or by political stratagem. The old quotations from the old Puritan and Nonconformist writers were made to do the same service that they did during the Bicentenary Controversy, and lastly the Very Reverend gentleman besought his hearers to do "something." The Dean's address was followed by others of the usual kind. The meeting as a whole was vigorous, and from the Church Institution point of view, well conducted. Looking at it as critics, we should say that there was small argument and great declamation, which was the characteristic of Church

speeches during the Irish Church agitation, but it is not for us to find fault with this. We are glad to see earnestness in the discussion of this question anywhere, not having the least doubt that it will bear its proper fruit.

The Education League has issued a circular to its friends which is deserving of the attention of more than the recognised friends of that body. It reminds us that in the debate on the Education Bill, Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Forster announced as part of the Government plan, a proposal to increase, on certain conditions, Parliamentary grants to existing, and therefore to denominational schools by one half the present amount. The committee of the League consider that this arrangement, if carried into effect, will be fraught with consequences "threatening the greatest dangers to the cause of religious liberty and national education." They, therefore, call for an earnest and uncompromising opposition to it. No doubt the League is right. We are, or shall be, in for a large children's State Establishment of religion on the Concurrent endowment system. By-and-by people who don't see this now, will see it clearly enough.

At a meeting of the Society for Employing Additional Curates, held at Wrexham last week, the Rev. G. H. McGill, rector of Bangor, gave some novel statistics to the audience. His subject was the revenues of the Church, upon which Mr. McGill said:—

It was an ascertained fact that the whole income of the Church was three millions and a quarter per annum. Just precisely the sum that had been left behind him by a railway contractor who died lately, and was a native of some part not far from Wrexham. He had amassed all that money by his industry, his skill, and his honesty. Well, there were 20,000 clergymen doing duty as ministers and curates in the various parishes belonging to the Church, and any one who knew how to do a sum in division would find that the three millions and a quarter divided amongst that number of clergymen would just give 170*l.* a year to each. That would be the average. But then people said the bishops are rich, the bishops have carriages. It was true that the bishops had an income of four or five thousand a year each, one bishop had a little more. But they must remember that those were the great prizes of the clerical profession, and there was many a medical man who made four or five thousand a year, and did not think it a large income. He knew medical men in the east end of London to make such incomes as these, and think very little of it.

We used to hear of ten millions a year as belonging to the Church, which, unless the value of buildings is to be reckoned, was an exaggeration, but no one ever dropped down to three millions and a quarter, or to an average income of 170*l.* for each clergyman. Our Church friends, however, are seldom great at figures, unless when they have to claim compensation, as has been shown during the proceedings of the Irish Church Commissioners. We wonder what the revenue of the Establishment will be found to be when the question of compensation for vested interests comes up?

There are congruities and incongruities everywhere, and some connected with the support of religion that would rather wound even a coarse sensitiveness. A few months ago we read of a game at "Aunt Sally" being amongst the other attractions of a *fete* offered by a local clergyman in Plymouth, for raising money. We now have an announcement, in a bill before us, printed at the *Advertiser* Office, Cardigan, and headed in bold type, "The Five Side Hunt Steeplechase." We are informed that the proceedings of the steeplechase will include the Welter Stakes, the Tivy Side Stakes, the Cardigan Staker, and the Farmers' Race. The Tivy Side hounds will hunt on Tuesday and Thursday, and balls will take place on those evenings, while on Friday and Saturday a Grand Fancy Bazaar, for the benefit of the Building Fund of Cenarth Church, will be held. The printer has done his duty, and put the bazaar into even bigger type than the Welter Stakes of "4 sovs. each with 40*l.* added." Well? well!

We report the proceedings of the Council meeting of the Liberation Society. It was a good gathering of men, upon many of whom will lay the stress of the agitation which will belong to the next few years. They are evidently prepared for it. They are hopeful and they are resolved. They have won every battle that they have ever been engaged in, and they know that they will win the last and greatest.

THE LIBERATION SOCIETY.

MEETING OF THE COUNCIL.

The customary meeting of the Council of the Liberation Society, held previous to the meeting of the Triennial Conference, took place at the City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street, on Thursday morning last. There was a remarkably good representative attendance. Amongst those present were Mr. Wm. Edwards (Treasurer), Mr. Carvell Williams (Secretary), Mr. H. R. Ellington, Dr. Underhill, Mr. J. Templeton, Rev. R. H. Smith, Mr. H. W.

Earp (Melbourne), Rev. G. S. Ingram (Richmond), Rev. W. H. Griffiths (Derby), Rev. John Keed (Acton), Rev. W. Bean, Rev. G. D. Macgregor, Rev. B. Nicholson (Bristol), Rev. C. Bailhache, Mr. C. Miall, Mr. A. Miall, Rev. F. Stephens, Mr. Tuckett, Mr. Ebenezer Clarke, Mr. J. M. Hare, Rev. J. W. Todd, Mr. E. A. Briggs (Daventry), Rev. E. H. Delf (Coventry), Mr. J. W. Buckley, Mr. J. S. Wright (Birmingham), Rev. John Pillans, Mr. Wm. Bond (Cambridge), Rev. R. Spears, Mr. Wm. Shaw (Longwood), Mr. Daniel Pratt, Mr. J. Wicks (Colchester), Mr. S. Mander (Wolverhampton), Mr. S. R. Pattison, Mr. Skeats, Mr. M. J. Whibley (Cambridge), Mr. W. Theobald, Mr. C. H. Elt, Mr. Haggis, Rev. W. Hitchens, Mr. Joseph Nunneley, &c.

Mr. Wm. Edwards occupied the chair, and stated that the Council had been summoned to determine the time of holding the next Conference and its Constitution. The Executive Committee suggested that it should be held on the 2nd and 3rd of May, at the City Terminus Hotel, and that the public meeting should be held at the Metropolitan Tabernacle. With regard to the Constitution the Committee recommended that the Conference should be constituted in the same manner as previous meetings. He invited the Council to express their opinions upon the questions that would be brought before them. Previous to submitting the business to the meeting, however, he could not help congratulating the friends of the Society upon the progress that public opinion was making towards the attainment of their object. Looking at all that was taking place, not only in England, but throughout Europe, it was evident that a great change was in progress in the direction of the practical application of their principles. In our own country, not merely amongst Nonconformists, but amongst Churchmen, opinions were expressed in the most decided manner that the separation of the Church from the State was only a question of time. (Hear, hear.) They had seen with gratification that a motion of a bold and comprehensive character was shortly to be made upon this subject. (Cheers.) That motion was looked forward to with great interest, and, whatever opinions might be entertained by some, they, at least, thought that their best support should be given to it. Some seemed to be of opinion that they would not live to see the day when such a motion would be carried, but his own feeling was that, before long, there would be no necessity for any more Triennial Conferences of the Liberation Society. (Cheers and laughter.)

The proposed constitution having been read—

Mr. H. R. ELLINGTON moved the following resolution:—

1. That the Council expresses its approval of the general arrangements proposed by the Executive Committee in regard to the time and place of the Society's approaching Triennial Conference.

Mr. Ellington stated that the question of time had been under the consideration of the committee. They were aware that, coming as it did between the Baptist and Congregational meetings, it was inconvenient to some of their friends, but they had come to the conclusion that they had better keep their old day.

The resolution having been seconded by Mr. Earp, of Melbourne, and at once adopted.

The heads of the proposed Constitution were then submitted to the meeting, when several questions were asked with regard to the precise mode of appointing delegates, the Rev. G. D. Macgregor, the Rev. J. Dosey, Mr. Daniel Pratt, and Mr. J. M. Hare, joining in the discussion. The TREASURER and SECRETARY having replied to the various questions,

The Rev. WILLIAM GRIFFITH, of Derby, who stated that he had attended most of the Conferences, moved the following resolution:—

That the Conference be composed of:—

1. The present Executive Committee and officers of the Society.

2. Delegates appointed by local committees, or, in the absence of such committees, by the subscribers in any place, or district.

3. Delegates appointed by meetings publicly called.

4. Delegates appointed by public bodies.

5. Such members of Parliament and other public men, as the Executive Committee may invite.

That it shall not be necessary that either the delegates, or the persons appointing them, shall have been previously connected with the Society; the only qualification required being an implied concurrence in the Society's objects, and in the propriety of organised efforts to obtain for them legislative sanction.

Mr. R. W. BOARER, of Folkestone, in seconding the resolution, expressed the hope that this would be the last Conference of the Society. (Hear.)

The resolution was carried unanimously. The formal business of the meeting having now been concluded,

The SECRETARY rose to give a statement of the present position of Parliamentary questions, some of which, he remarked, were new and some old. Feeling last year that there was a strong Government which would be willing to take the question in hand, a deputation waited upon Mr. Gladstone with reference to the Universities Tests Bill. The right hon. gentleman, subject to certain conditions, consented that the Government should take the matter in hand, and they all knew the result. Mr. Williams next detailed the history of the bill in Parliament, and proceeded to describe the circumstances connected with the recent negotiations upon the same subject. As they knew, a small deputation had waited upon Mr. Gladstone and explained their views to him, but Mr. Gladstone was of opinion that the Lords should have another opportunity of passing the bill as it stood. It was thought, indeed, that the bill might be lost if the abolition of the clerical fellowships were insisted upon. They

thought it wise to meet the Government upon its own terms, but at the same time it was perfectly understood that they would exercise the liberty to tell the House of Commons plainly that they regarded the measure as deficient in that respect. All their friends, therefore, would be at liberty to take their own course, but not necessarily with a hostile feeling to the Government. As for Mr. Gladstone, he had given proof of his sincerity not only by introducing the bill very early, but by taking charge of it himself. (Hear, hear.) Mr. Williams next referred to the Burials Bill and described its character. The measure introduced last year had not been seriously injured in committee, and the variations from it, therefore, were very small. As the sense of the House had not been taken upon the amended bill of last session, it was considered advisable to bring it forward again. The second reading would take place on the 1st March, and he might say that the other side had made up their minds to defeat it by every means that they could command. If it should be defeated, a measure of a more decisive character would certainly be introduced. (Hear, hear.) With regard to Mr. Miall's proposed motion—(cheers)—the difference between it and that published at the close of the last session was explained. It had been discussed whether it might not have been expedient to introduce a motion for a Royal Commission, but there were several objections to that, and it was decided that a definite proposition should be made, and that it should be extended to Scotland. Probably the motion would not come on till after Easter. It would be seconded by a Churchman—(Hear, hear)—and the cases of England, Scotland, and Wales would be brought before the House by different members. He doubted whether the motion could be met by mere silence. (Hear, hear.) It had already excited more attention and interest than had been expected, and there had been only one case where a Liberal member had expressed his opinion that it was premature. It now rested with the Council to say what should be done in support of the measure. Various modes in which it could be supported were pointed out. Whatever was done it must be made known that they were in earnest—(cheers); that the Nonconformist section of the nation at least had made up their minds, and that members must be acquainted with the gravity of the question. He believed that the coming discussion would raise the question to a higher platform than it had ever occupied. (Cheers.)

The Rev. B. NICHOLSON informed the Council that a town meeting was about to be called at Birmingham, and when Birmingham moved it moved with the might of an elephant. (Laughter.) Both their members would support Mr. Miall's motion. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. S. S. MANDER, of Wolverhampton, after having asked a question with reference to the colonies, urged that the best men should be engaged by the Society to put the question before the country, as was done during the Anti-Corn Law League agitation.

The CHAIRMAN said that they were glad to arrange for lectures and meetings anywhere and everywhere. (Cheers.)

The Rev. J. KEED, of Acton, amidst loud cheers, disclaimed the statement made by the member (Mr. Morley) who seconded the Address to the Crown, that the Nonconformists would be satisfied with the passing of the Universities Tests Bill and a fair Burials Bill.

Mr. TUCKETT and Mr. SHAW having spoken, Mr. E. A. BRIGGS, of Daventry, urged that attention should be paid to the smaller villages. Mr. PRATT also called attention to the necessity of work in the country; and Mr. MANDER again rose to express a strong hope that the terms of the disendowment of the English Church would not be so liberal as those granted to the Irish. (Hear, hear.) After some further observations by Mr. TEMPLETON and Mr. WICKS, jun., Mr. SHAW moved and Mr. NUNNLEY seconded a vote of thanks to the chair, which was carried by acclamation, and the meeting separated.

ASHTON-UNDER-LINE.

On Tuesday evening week a lecture in connection with the Liberation Society was delivered in the Town Hall, by the Rev. Thomas Green, the subject being, "Our Church and our Money." There was a large audience. Joshua Wood, Esq., took the chair, and among other gentlemen on the platform were Hugh Mason, Esq., A. E. Reyner, Esq., N. Buckley, Esq., Alderman Galt, J. Waterhouse, Esq., Edward Sutcliffe, Esq., the Rev. J. Hutchison, the Rev. H. T. Marshall, &c.

The CHAIRMAN—a Wesleyan—in his opening speech referred to the objects of the Liberation Society, and the abuses existing in the Establishment. He believed that the principles of the Society only required to be understood to be appreciated and adopted. (Hear, hear.) He quoted the following from the *Church Times*:—"The movement for the separation of Church and State is spreading all over the world, and not in England only. It is a mark of the time, Russia, Austria, Italy, Spain, and Portugal having joined the movement, as well as Protestant Holland. Even Sweden and Prussia, now the headquarters of Establishmentarianism, feel the earthquake coming." Then again, "I might have named the Church in Ireland. In Ireland, as they were informed by the papers, in consequence of disestablishment all was quiet and peaceable, and the Church itself was even now richer than it was previous to its disestablishment, and its prospects for usefulness were far greater. They sought not to damage the Church, but to promote her interests, that was, to set her free from State control."

The Rev. THOMAS GREEN proceeded to deliver an elaborate lecture on the subject announced, which we understand will shortly be printed. The Rev. H. J. MARSHALL, in moving a vote of thanks to the lecturer, said that the Church might have the money, and he did not think Dissenters would complain much about it if the clergy could show they earned it. They had not done that. It was almost impossible a man could earn so much as some of these clergymen were receiving by way of salary. However, if there were in the Church a few more men such as Dean Alford and Dean Stanley and several others, he did not think the country would be particular about paying them down the amount a few years longer, knowing it was only a question of time.

A. E. REYNER, Esq., in seconding the motion, expressed his great obligations to Mr. Green for his very able lecture. His name must be very well known in Ashton to draw—in spite of such abominable weather which had got quite into league with Church and State—such a magnificent audience, which he thought had been totally unanimous in listening with great attention to what the lecturer had said. There was a matter which he was sorry Mr. Green had not referred to. It was the Universities. No doubt many of them had read in the papers of a very interesting ceremony which took place at Owens College, in reference to a testimonial presented to Dr. Hopkinson, of Manchester, who had taken the highest honour Cambridge could bestow, but who on account of his being a Dissenter and refusing to sign the Thirty-nine Articles was not enabled to receive the pecuniary emolument which he ought to do. The gentleman who stood second on the list was, he believed, a Churchman, but from some cause or other he also refused to sign. The third was the son of a London Independent minister, and he also refused to sign the Thirty-nine Articles. (Cheers.) Therefore they had to go to number four, who was no doubt a highly educated gentleman, but, as the examination list showed, he was not up to the others.

Mr. GREEN returned thanks, and moved a vote of thanks to Mr. Wood, which was seconded by Mr. HUGH MASON, who said:—

I second the resolution the more readily because he is what is called a Wesleyan—not a Dissenter—a Wesleyan Nonconformist. Now the Wesleyans of Ashton-under-Lyne are very much ahead of the Wesleyans of Manchester, and of many of the great towns of the county, and of other parts of the country; and if the Wesleyans would, like our friend Mr. Wood, become members of the Liberation Society, the disestablishment of the State Church would be a matter of a very short time indeed. We must not forget that while we have a Liberation Society the Established Church has also a Defence Society. A meeting was held last night in the city of Manchester—and the audience was much more select than numerous—on behalf of what is called the Northern Church Defence Association. Well, I am very glad indeed that our friends of the State Church are coming forward to make the best defence they possibly can against what they are pleased to call the attacks of the Liberation Society. One clergyman who was talking on that movement—no, not a clergyman—no less than Mr. Charley, the member for Salford—(laughter)—was regretting very deeply that the Northern Church Defence Association did not enjoy the patronage and the membership of our respected diocesan, the Bishop of Manchester. But when reading the account in the papers, I said to myself, in the words of my friend Edward Leatham, the member for Huddersfield, "The Bishop of Manchester is far too good a fellow to wear a mitre." (Cheers.) But I think we may very well leave the question of this money to the hands of the Prime Minister of this day, and I should not wonder but it will be Mr. Disraeli. (Laughter.) But of this the present owners of that money may rest assured, that every disposition will be shown by Parliament, by the country, and by all Dissenters throughout the land, to deal generously and nobly, and in the very height of Christian charity and honesty, towards them. (Cheers.)

GLASGOW.—Mr. Fuller lectured at Sydney-place Church on the 14th of February to a good audience. The lecture, which was on the revenues of the Scotch Establishment, was, says the *North British Daily Mail*, a very interesting one, and was much applauded.

ROTHESAY.—A lecture was delivered by Mr. Fuller at Rothsay on the 10th. Ex-Provost McKirdy occupied the chair. Mr. Macfarlane, who spoke after Mr. Fuller sat down, delivered a thorough anti-State Church speech.

PAISLEY.—Mr. Fuller was at Paisley on the 12th, when Sir Peter Coats presided at the meeting. In addition to the lecturer, the meeting was addressed by the Rev. G. C. Hutton, the Rev. Mr. Henderson, the Rev. J. Crouch, Mr. Brown, Mr. Hutcheson, and Mr. Thomas Coats.

FORTHCOMING MEETINGS AND LECTURES.—Tomorrow evening Mr. Carvell Williams is to give an address at Market Harborough, and the next night, in conjunction with Mr. Miall, M.P., is to attend a public meeting at Leicester. This week the Rev. W. J. Callaway is addressing audiences at Ilkeston, Ripley, Melbourne, and Belper. Next week the Rev. W. G. Conder is to lecture on disestablishment at Northampton, Bedford, Kettering, Tonbridge, and Maidstone. To-night there is a meeting at Woolwich, and on the 7th and 13th of March large meetings will be held at Wolverhampton and Birmingham.

THE ABOLITION OF UNIVERSITY TESTS AND DISESTABLISHMENT.

On Thursday night a public meeting of the members and friends of the Liberation Society was held at the Chorlton Town Hall, for the purpose of supporting the movement for the abolition of University Tests, and Mr. Miall's motion for disestablishment.

There was a large attendance. The chair was occupied by Mr. James Boyd. After an able speech from the chairman, a letter was read from the Rev. Alexander M'Laren, who was unable to be present, in which he said:—

I hope that unmistakable expression will be given to the dissatisfaction of Nonconformists with the Government measure on the University Tests. The hesitating incompleteness of a proposal which leaves the masterships of colleges and the clerical fellowships untouched, cannot be accepted as in accordance with the principles, or as fulfilling the just expectations, of the friends of religious equality. We occupy an intelligible position as long as we claim free access to all the advantages of the national Universities for all classes of the nation, irrespective of religious differences. Our wisdom and our strength lie in firm adherence to our claim, whosoever may propose compromise.

The Rev. JOSEPH CORBETT moved the first resolution as follows:—

That this meeting, being of opinion that the establishment of the Church of England by law is unjust to Nonconformists and injurious to Churchmen, rejoices that Parliament is about to be called upon to apply the principles of disestablishment, already adopted in regard to Ireland and the colonies, to the other Established Churches of the kingdom.

(Cheers.) There were many grounds on which they thought that the sooner the connection between Church and State was severed the better for the Church, for Dissent, the State, the general welfare of the community, religion, the moral prosperity of the nation, and, above all, the glorious cause of common Christianity. (Cheers.) He affirmed that such an Establishment was unjust on many grounds. As an Establishment, it was supported at a cost of about 10,000,000l. a year, a sum immense enough, and which almost wholly belongs to the nation as an entirety, and not to any special and particular community. (Cheers.) It was certainly as much the property of Dissenters as Churchmen, and yet, forsooth, it was employed exclusively for the benefit of the latter—perhaps a fifth of the entire population. (Cheers.)

The Rev. DUNCAN MACGREGOR seconded the resolution.

The Rev. Dr. McKerrow supported the resolution. He was in one sense an old senior wrangler himself—(laughter)—a wrangler, as he believed his opponents thought, in the worst sense of the term. He had been asked the other day by a clerical opponent, "What do you Dissenters want? You have toleration." But "toleration" granted to Dissenters supposed that there was a right not to tolerate. (Hear, hear.) "Toleration" recognised no principle of justice, no exercise of right and freedom; Dissenters were merely suffered to live, to think, and to worship. Were they to be thankful for this small mercy, more especially considering the difficulties through which their position was won? It grieved him that the leaders of the Liberal party had come forward in the present session with precisely the same bill which was submitted to Parliament last year. (Hear, hear.) He was beginning to distrust the sincerity of the Government now in power. (Hear, hear.) If they looked at the miserable Education Act which had been recently passed, and took it in connection with the bill which had now been proposed for the removal of University Tests, he thought they might well be suspicious. He for one would follow no party which was not true to right and progress, and which was willing to carry measures by compromises made with its opponents. (Cheers.) The question of the disestablishment would be well taken care of in Mr. Miall's hands. Neither he nor Mr. Miall, he was afraid, would live to see the disestablishment, but as sure as they had accomplished the removal of various grievances to which reference had been made, so surely was the time coming when the greatest of all grievances, and the source, he might almost say, of all the strife and oppression and wrong existing in the country, would be levelled with the dust. (Cheers.)

The resolution was then put to the meeting, and carried with a few dissentients.

Professor WILKINS moved:—

That this meeting, while regarding with satisfaction the action of the Government in dealing with the important question of the University Tests at the commencement of the Parliamentary session, regrets that the Government measure only partially meets the requirements of the case, and expresses an earnest hope that the bill would be so amended as to remove all religious disabilities and place the Universities upon a truly national basis.

He had been told that the Dissenters were trying to rob the National Church of property which had been left to it. (Cries of "Hear, hear," from the back of the room.) Some gentlemen present, whose zeal seemed somewhat to exceed their discretion, ventured to support the argument with their approval. Were they aware that at the present time, both in Cambridge and Oxford, scholars of the highest distinction were excluded from the benefits of those endowments simply and solely because they held the same religious opinions which the founders held? (Cheers.) Were they aware that the founders of by far the greater proportion of the endowments of Oxford and Cambridge would have thought it simply monstrous that anyone who did not believe in the supremacy of the Pope, who did not worship the Virgin, who did not offer prayers to the dead, should share in their benefits? (Cheers.) He was not prepared to go so far as many of those who were with him on the platform, and to say that the connection of the Church with the State was a sin and a shame from the beginning. He believed there was a time—perhaps not so long ago—in the history of the nation, when national support to the Church was necessary. He believed that swaddling clothes were necessary for infants. He did not believe that they were necessary for grown men. He believed the childhood of our nation had past, and that its man-

hood had come, and that though when as a child it had thought as a child, and was dressed as a child, now that it was grown to manhood, it ought to fling away those childish things. (Applause.)

Professor ALDIS seconded the resolution.

Dr. HOPKINSON, who was received with loud and continued cheering, said the best way to attack a grievance was to know actually what it was, because any mistake about what it might be was extremely injurious to one's position in attacking it. It was a mistake, so far as Cambridge was concerned, that the test required any explicit signature of the Thirty-nine Articles. The facts were these: After a man was elected to a fellowship he had to call upon the Vice-Chancellor and sign his name in a book, declaring that he promised to conform to the Liturgy of the Church of England as by law established. After that, when he was admitted to his fellowship, he was required to make a declaration, at most of the Colleges, but it generally differed. At Christ's and Trinity Hall there was no declaration required by the college, but of course Fellows had to make the University declaration. At Trinity, the declaration was evidently levelled against the Roman Catholics. The remaining test was required to be taken at the time of taking the M.A. degree, and it might be taken in two ways. A man might pass it either in the declarant's book, or in another. In the declarant's book he was simply to state that he was a *bona fide* member of the Church of England. He was then a member of the Senate, and had a right to vote for University members to Parliament. He wanted to make a few remarks upon the position in which a candidate stood with reference to University tests. The whole question turned upon what was meant by conformity. There were two views taken about that, and the first was that a candidate simply pledged himself not to attempt to do any injury to the Church. A great many men were content with that view. They did not particularly care to injure the Church: they preferred their emoluments. (Laughter.) The other view, and one he had taken, was that the declaration meant not only that the declarant would not injure the Church, but that he agreed with the Church in her religious doctrines, and in her practice as regarded worship and so on. It did not seem to him to be a question of religion as to whether or not a man should take those tests; it was simply a point of honour, and nothing less or more. He thought it was only just to some people who had taken the tests that he should mention this point. He did not think the case was any the less strong against the tests, because it was not necessary to sign the Thirty-nine Articles. (Hear, hear.) But it was just as well that they should know precisely what it was that they were fighting against. The argument on which he chiefly based his objections to the tests was this. He would not rest it so much upon the question of injustice to individuals, as on the injury which it did to public morality. (Cheers.) He thought it was a terrible injury to public veraciousness to place a man in a position in which he had to decide on the meaning of a term, when in deciding one way very considerable advantage would accrue to him. It seemed to him that one of the most important points in public morality was that we should be very particular in sticking to the meaning of words, and not to alter them. (Cheers.) He should like to make one or two remarks about himself. He wished to state that hitherto he had had no opportunity of refusing to take a fellowship, either on conscientious grounds or on any other grounds. He did not know how the wrong impression to that effect had got abroad at all, but the fact of the case was this: the seniors of the college, after an examination, elected Fellows to vacancies once a year, in September or October, and only those who had taken degrees were eligible for election. He did not know what might be the result in his case. It would be for the seniors of his college to decide; but he wished it to be understood that he had had no opportunity of accepting or declining any fellowship. He had been given a certain credit for refusing a fellowship which was not his due. He did not mean to say that he receded from the position which his friends had taken up for him. He had no intention of promising to conform to the liturgy and the Church of England. How it had become known what his intention was, he did not know, because he had never declared hitherto any intention in the matter, excepting of course that his private friends knew his opinions and sentiments. The motion, of course, had his most hearty support, because he was himself seriously interested in the matter, independent of other reasons with which he would not trouble the meeting. (Cheers.)

The Rev. ALEXANDER THOMSON also supported the resolution, which was passed with enthusiasm by the meeting, which had now become very crowded.

On the motion of the Rev. J. A. M'FADYEN, seconded by the Rev. T. MYERS, it was resolved that copies of the resolutions should be sent to the Premier, to Mr. Miall, M.P., and to the members for the city of Manchester.

A vote of thanks to the chairman concluded the proceedings.

THE DEAN OF EXETER ON DISESTABLISHMENT AND DISENDOWMENT.

On Wednesday a lecture on "The Duty and Means of Church Defence" was delivered at the Royal Public Rooms, Exeter, by Mr. John Hicklin, Organising Secretary of the Devonshire Church Institute. The large room was about three-fourths full, the audience being principally ladies. The Very Rev. the Dean (Dr. Boyd) presided.

The CHAIRMAN, in opening the proceedings, said they were no doubt aware that the great object in the formation of the Church

Institute was not aggressive but defensive. If the Church Institute had been of an aggressive character he for one should have refused to participate or take any part in its proceedings. (Hear, hear.) He must say that he was compelled to admit that there might be certain causes, forming a very just and proper ground, which might justify persons entering on an aggressive system with regard to the Church of England. He could quite understand, for example, the position of an honest Dissenter who had come to the distinct conclusion that the interests of religion would be best served by having the Church in a state of freedom rather than under what that person would call "State control." (Hear.) There were many persons who conscientiously held the opinion that religion would thrive better if left entirely free and untrammelled by any political consideration whatever; but though they held that honest opinion, yet he himself in a great degree justified in dissenting from that conclusion. (Hear, hear.) But the feeling that animated many who had set on foot the attack against the Established Church was very different from this. It was impossible to observe the spirit displayed by many persons in the attack, and not to notice that there was far more of the sectarian than the religious spirit in it. (Hear, hear.) He drew their attention to a book written by Mr. Miall, where it was stated that national churches were stamped with the characteristic mark of the beast, that no man was a patriot who advocated the maintenance of a State Church, that State Churches were the nurses of bitterness and war, that every footstep in their history plashed in the blood of men, that they flourished best in darkness, and were most perfect when in juxtaposition with the least intelligence. As to the clergy of Established Churches, Mr. Miall said they were opposed to civil and religious liberty, to the education of the people, and that neither liberality nor gentleness were to be found in them. He (the Dean) merely referred to these statements to show the spirit by which some persons were actuated, and if this represented the spirit of Nonconformists (as it was put forward as their leading book) then he thought it would be agreed by his hearers that it was most extreme. (Hear, hear.) It was now evident that there was a most violent and powerful aggressive movement against the Established Church, and as a proof that it was likely to take action, he referred to the notice of motion given by Mr. Miall in the House of Commons for the disestablishment and disendowment of the English Church, and he also referred to the motion of Mr. Watkin Williams for a similar course of procedure with regard to the Welsh Church. In the face of this he thought Churchmen should rally around their beloved Church with a determination not to let it be thrown down by calumny, vituperation, or political strategy. (Applause.) In opposition to the statement that it was but financial justice to disendow the English Church, he quoted extracts from speeches and writings by Mr. Toulmin Smith and Dr. Pye Smith, the former a Nonconformist barrister of no ordinary standing, and the latter a distinguished Nonconformist minister in his day. Dr. Vaughan, a Dissenting minister, had also referred to the great progress of the Church of England, and Mr. Green, a Unitarian minister, did not think that the movement against the Established Church was justified by right or necessity. (Hear, hear.) Then there was Mr. Winterbotham, the member for Stroud, who stood forward as one of the aggressors, and yet was obliged to admit that the clergy had done more than their share to educate the poor. Next he referred to the late celebrated Dr. Angell James, who spoke in the highest terms of the work of the clergy of the Church of England, even establishing a contrast in their favour with those of his own persuasion. He (the Dean) wished to know the reason for this assault on the Church. What had she done to deserve this sentence of extermination which had been passed on her? (Hear, hear.) In twenty years, from 1831 to 1851, she spent 5,575,661l. in the erection of, and addition to, churches, besides that which was contributed for the rebuilding, reconstruction, and improvement of ancient buildings; she also gave in that period seventy per cent. of the education of the country. (Hear, hear.) As to the character of the clergy, would that not bear the most rigid scrutiny? (Hear, hear.) Why, if the Church deserved the praise that had been given her by those not her members for her work in education and religion, should there be this attempt to disestablish and disendow an institution which had confessedly done so much good? (Hear, hear.) He contended that such a measure would be impolitic, for while now the whole of the country was divided into parishes, with a clergyman in every parish, then, if left to the voluntary system, many rural parishes would necessarily be left without a minister, for they had not means sufficient to support one. He had no fear but what the Church would live in the great towns, such as Exeter, but in places such as those to be found round Dartmoor, there would be no means to support it, and if you took religion from these poor people, he wanted to know how the standard of the Cross could be kept up? Disestablishment and disendowment would be simply the suppression and destruction of all ministerial effort in the country in that respect. (Hear, hear.) The people themselves would suffer by this, and be like sheep without a shepherd. (Hear, hear.) He contended that the teaching of religion throughout the whole country under the voluntary system would fail, as they might see by America. If spiritual ministrations to the people of England were left to the voluntary system, he was certain that the result in twenty years would be an enormous decay of the piety and religion which made this country what she was, tranquil and quiet in the midst of the storm which

was shaking other nations. (Hear, hear.) His great object to-night was to show them that the Church of England was in danger and was now being assaulted in the most determined, resolute, energetic, and vindictive way, and he had no doubt that in the discussion in the House of Commons on Mr. Miall's motion many a tongue would be unloosed to hurl hard expressions against the Church. (Hear, hear.) Churchmen had, however, received the warning, and they must do their utmost to counteract the feeling now set on foot against the Establishment. He advised them to heal all minor differences, to close their ranks firmly against this aggression, to make known their claims to the position which they had held for so many years, and the clergy must try to the very utmost to show that they were worthy the confidence of the people of England. (Applause.)

Mr. HICKLIN then proceeded with his lecture, stating the objects of the Institute, showing the work the Church had done, her claims on the support of her people, and urging them to do their utmost to maintain her union with the State, for it was most expedient from every point of view.

A vote of thanks was heartily awarded to Mr. Hicklin at the close of the lecture.

CONVOCATION AND THE "WESTMINSTER SCANDAL."

In the Postscript of our last number we briefly stated that in the Upper House of Convocation the question of the presence of a Unitarian on one of the Companies engaged on the revision of the Scriptures had been debated at some length. The Bishop of London presided. The discussion was commenced by the Bishop of WINCHESTER (Wilberforce) who stated:—

That in the judgment of this House it is not expedient that any person who denies the Godhead of our Lord Jesus Christ should be invited to assist in the revision of the Scriptures; and that it is the judgment, further, of this House, that any such one in the Company should cease to act therewith.

The Bishop of LONDON seconded this, and said it never occurred to him that the resolution should extend to a person who denied the Godhead of Christ. The Bishop of LLANDAFF supported the motion. In the discussion which followed, the Bishop of St. DAVID's doubted whether there was so strong a feeling in respect to Mr. Vance Smith's appointment as had been represented; but still thought that such a thing ought never to be repeated. The Bishop of GLOUCESTER and the Bishop of ELY remarked that all the scandal which had arisen was the effect of the unfortunate resolution inviting people of all denominations to assist in the work of revision. The Bishop of LINCOLN thought the resolution before the House would lead to a series of compromises and controversies which it would be very difficult to deal with. The Bishop of PETERBOROUGH did not see how the mere fact of a man's being a Unitarian could disqualify him from partaking in such a work. If he was an honest man, he would give an honest opinion; if he were not, he had no business there at all. The Bishop of SALISBURY testified to the candid, moderate, and manly opinions which Mr. Vance Smith had always given at the meetings of the committee; but as there seemed so strong a feeling in the Church on the subject, he should support the Bishop of Winchester's motion.

The Bishop of EXETER felt very much impressed by what had been said by the Bishops of St. David's, Ely, and Peterborough, and he could not help feeling that it was of great importance that the revised translation of the Scriptures should go forth to the world as the work, not only of the Anglican Church, but of the best scholars, that it might be used authoritatively in all controversies that might hereafter arise. The question was of much more importance to the laity than it was to the clergy. It might be said that the translation was biased by the particular school of theologians to which the revisers belonged; and that was a serious thing. If the matter had been thoroughly discussed when the resolution was passed in the first instance, he could not help thinking that in the temper of the House then, the resolution would still be adopted. In the Lower House the question was raised, and it was moved, seconded, and rejected, to add certain words. It was plain that the question was in men's minds from the first, with few exceptions, but since then other circumstances had happened, and there had been a great deal of angry feeling and a great many protests and petitions, and all that seemed to have had very much influence on the House in their present judgment. The question of admitting a Unitarian must have been considered when the resolution was passed, for the resolution could not be understood to exclude a Unitarian. He thought they ought to pause and consider carefully before they allowed such a blot to be put upon their own acts, as a deliberative assembly, by rescinding their own resolution. It was now proposed that they should go back, and say that, in spite of their previous resolution, they should not only propose to limit the power of the committee for the future, but say to those gentlemen, "We never intended you to come here."

On Wednesday the Bishop of ROCHESTER, in resuming the debate, said that discussion had put their lordships in a most painful position. It was not to be denied that the first resolution appointing those Revision Companies covered the selection of Mr. Vance Smith as one of the persons invited. He thought the injured honour of their Lord and Saviour demanded that some reparation should be made, but he also thought the indirect mode of censure proposed by the Bishop of Winchester hardly met the case.

The Bishop of BANGOR said that under all the circumstances he thought it would be better to overrule the original resolution of the Convocation and to

provide that no such person should in future be a member of the Revision Committee.

The Bishop of ST. ASAPH thought it would be a sad thing for the House to sacrifice its consistency or its good faith; but might it not be guilty of a breach of faith towards another besides the gentleman who had been placed on that committee—namely, the Great Head of the Church itself? He had no doubt of the honesty, the scholarship, or the uprightness of Mr. Vance Smith, but he was not at all satisfied that they would be justified in continuing him on the committee. At the same time, he was disposed to move "the previous question," so that the matter might stand over for further consideration.

The Bishop of CHICHESTER believed that in rescinding the original resolution under which Mr. Smith was invited they would echo the voice of all branches of the Christian Church. He must therefore vote with the Bishop of Winchester, though he should do so with immense reluctance.

The Bishop of WINCHESTER, in summing up the arguments, said the resolution of Convocation invited critical and by no means invited common communion. The question before them was whether they, the bishops of that province, would take any action in the matter. Should they say that they had debated the matter, and that they could not make up their minds on the doctrine of their Lord's Godhead?

The Bishop of OXFORD: No, we do not say that.

The Bishop of WINCHESTER contended that he had accurately represented the matter, and that it was a subject of the gravest concern to the Church.

A division was then taken on "the previous question," when there appeared—For, six, and against, twelve.

A division was then taken on the Bishop of Winchester's resolution, when there appeared—For, ten, against, four.

The motion was declared carried, but the Bishop of Peterborough and two or three other prelates did not vote.

The Bishop of NORWICH moved the following rider to the resolution:—

That this House regrets that the terms of the resolution by which the Committee of Revisers was appointed left it open to such committee not only to take all the advantage of the learning or scholarship of persons not holding the Christian faith, but to admit them to a place and a voice in their body, and considers such admission to be inconsistent with the relation of the Church to God's word written, and perilous to any attempt to revise the authorised translation of the Word.

The Bishop of LINCOLN seconded the motion.

The Bishop of ELY considered that sufficient distinction had not been drawn between the committee and the Company of Revisers. The committee was altogether independent of the Company, who were the councillors or assessors of the committee, who alone were responsible. He did not wish it to go forth that they were not all allowed to vote fairly and equally. At the last the committee alone would report to Convocation, but in the meantime two Companies had been formed, on which all had equal voices, whether members of Convocation or not.

The Bishop of PETERBOROUGH proposed the following amendment:—

That it has become desirable that invitations to co-operate in the work of the revision of the sacred Scriptures should in future emanate directly from Convocation, and that therefore so much of the fifth resolution as empowered the Committee of Revision appointed by the House to give such invitations be rescinded.

The Bishop of GLOUCESTER and BRISTOL remarked that he believed the New Testament Company would not complete their labours until five years and a half from the commencement.

A division was then taken on the Bishop of Norwich's "rider," when six voted for it and eight against it. It was therefore lost.

The Bishop of PETERBOROUGH then moved his resolution as a substantive motion.

The Bishop of LINCOLN regretted that the question of orthodoxy had been imported into the discussion. They had ostracised an individual, and had almost made that House of Convocation a Star Chamber. They had deliberately invited a gentleman to take part in the work of revision on the ground that he was a sound Biblical scholar, but now they had changed their mind and treated him as a heretic. They were to put this man almost into the pillory in order to make him a victim, and had made Convocation a court of heresy.

The Bishop of SALISBURY most earnestly hoped the proposition now before the House would not be carried, but that the original resolution might stand as before.

The Bishop of ELY said that he and the Bishop of Llandaff in voting for an invitation to be sent to Mr. Vance Smith had acted in strict accordance with the terms of the original resolution, although they regretted it now.

The Bishop of LONDON thought that if any one wanted by a side wind to get rid of the Committee of Revision, it would be secured by passing this resolution. Although the fifth resolution was passed on a broad view, his opinion was that it would have excluded Roman Catholics and Socinians. No doubt a mistake had been committed, but there was not the slightest chance of such a mistake occurring again. If the resolution was rescinded, and the name of every gentleman proposed had to be discussed in Convocation, no one would consent to come forward, except members of the Church of England. In that case the revision, when completed, would come before the English-speaking population of the world with very little chance of becoming the authorised version. He must therefore vote against the motion.

On a division there were—For the motion, six; against it, eight.

The motion was consequently lost, and it was ordered that the Bishop of Winchester's resolution, which had been carried, should be submitted to the Lower House for its consideration.

At the meeting of the Upper House on Thursday, the Bishop of ST. DAVID's created much surprise by announcing that, in consequence of the resolution which was carried by their lordships on the previous day, he had determined on resigning his position as one of the Revising Company, of which he had been the chairman. He took this step with the most profound reluctance, and without having mentioned the circumstance to a single human being. He did not believe that anything—call it heresy or what they would—except scholarship had anything to do with the revision of the Scriptures; and that what the resolution affirmed was not the real bond of union. On the contrary, he held that precisely the contrary was the case, for, from the earliest history of the Church, it had been evident that, when all had been of one mind with regard to doctrine, there had been a tendency to warp the Scriptures, and to accommodate them to their preconceived opinions. The right reverend prelate moved a resolution, of which he had given notice, affirming that their lordships did not mean in any way to state that the committee were bound by any other principle than guarding against preconceived notions of theological tenets to proceed with their work. The Bishop of GLOUCESTER and BRISTOL seconded the resolution, which was supported by the Bishop of ELY, and after some discussion carried unanimously.

In the Lower House on Thursday, Dr. JELF moved that the resolution of the Upper House be agreed to, which was seconded by Archdeacon ALLEN.

The Dean of WESTMINSTER moved, as an amendment, "the previous question," and he at once entered upon a pungent criticism on the action of the bishops who had given way to the outcry against the presence on the committee of a gentleman who did not hold the faith of the Church. In terms of strong indignation he repudiated the idea that such a course could be adopted "in honour" of our loving and Divine Saviour, as asserted elsewhere in the present Convocation, and to apply such a term in such a manner to cloak a breach of faith—a distinct breach of faith—would be to treat the Saviour's name as that of a heathen deity. It was, too, totally opposed to the character and teaching of our Lord, who said it was not every one "who saith unto me Lord, Lord, but he who doeth the will of my Father"—that is, would act with judgment, justice, and truth—"shall enter into the kingdom of heaven." The right rev. dean said he lifted up his voice against that most detestable doctrine that a breach of faith could be in any way an "honour" to our Lord, or that our Lord could be in any way honoured, except by a strict adherence to law, to justice, and to truth. He denied that it was obligatory upon the Lower House to receive with foregone submission anything which came down from the Upper House, and, more—this resolution came down from a divided body, and he would not hesitate to say that the most single-minded, the most conscientious members of the Upper House were on the side of maintaining the committee as it was.

The speaker was interrupted at this juncture by several members "rising to order" to question the right of referring to persons in "another place." The PROLOCUTOR ruled that, as the two Houses were one body, it was competent to refer to any one in either House.

The Dean of WESTMINSTER, in resuming, dwelt upon the action of the Bishop of Winchester, the chairman of the Revision Committee, who had proposed the first step in reversing the position of the committee, and pointed out that that prelate had allowed the arrangements of the committee to be made without one single word of dissent from their proceedings; he had allowed most important commercial contracts for printing to be entered into without giving an inkling of opposition, and he now turned round suddenly. These facts materially damaged the resolution. Then the Bishop of Gloucester, the chairman, who sat in the place of the Bishop of Winchester, accepted the whole position of the presence on the committee of the gentleman against whom this was aimed, and declared that this very panic bound all members of the Company in a closer bond of unity. (Hear.) If this resolution were carried, the whole relation of Convocation with the revision would be revolutionised, and he entreated the House, as an assembly of Christian clergy, as an assembly of learned scholars, as an assembly of English gentlemen, not to reject a measure of good and commit a deliberate breach of faith, which would be a direct dishonour to the holy religion whose name was borne by the Word of Truth.

Canon SELWYN seconded the amendment, and said the Upper House by this resolution had taken upon itself a very responsible position. The resolution of the Upper House had seemed to infer that the interpretation of Scripture was to be made to depend not upon learning so much as upon belief. The gentlemen on the committee had been chosen for their critical learning, and if their presence were denied to the committee on the score of their faith, then Convocation would have to go a step further, and say that no books written by men of opposite beliefs were to be consulted. (Hear, hear.) If the resolution were carried, he said it would become a question for serious consideration whether the revision should not be carried on independently of Convocation, for these limitations would loosen the link which bound the whole Christian community in one bond in consulting one book as the standard Bible. (Hear.)

The discussion then widened out into the con-

sideration of minor points, and, with some personal feeling, was carried on at great length. Eventually it was agreed to be suspended.

On Friday the discussion was continued at great length, and the Dean of WESTMINSTER stated distinctly that nothing which that House might think fit to pass should prevent him from acting on the principle upon which he had acted when he was the celebrant in Henry VII.'s Chapel; and more, nothing which this House could pass would deprive him of his right as a clergyman to administer the sacrament under other laws and other rules than the laws and rules of the Church of England. He owned that he had had misgivings about holding the service when urged to do it by two orthodox and devout members of the Revision Committee, but he conferred with the Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol, the acting chairman of the Companies, upon the subject, and it was with his consent and on the suggestion of those two devout orthodox members of the committee that the invitations were issued to the service. He proceeded to say that the Bishop of Gloucester knew that the gentleman referred to was kneeling by his side, and it was not until afterwards, when that gentleman was taunted by those most ungenerous taunts which had alienated many Christian brethren from the Church, that he had foregone his own opinions, that the answer came out from him which had aroused this opposition. The speaker contended that the holy office of the sacrament could be taken without agreeing with all the tenets of a Church, for Protestants had taken the Roman Catholic sacrament without accepting all the dogmas of that Church, and on the field of battle in this terrible war German Protestants had been administered to by Roman Catholic priests. He prayed the House to take pity upon the Upper House in the dilemma in which that House had placed itself, and he said the last resolution had indeed placed the bishops in a pitiable position, and this House should go to their rescue by rejecting this resolution. The course of the bishops was marked by vacillation after vacillation, breach of faith after breach of faith.

The "previous question" was then put to the vote, and there were twenty for the amendment and forty against it.

Canon LLOYD then moved another amendment, to the effect that the Upper House should permit the Lower House to postpone giving its opinion on the resolution sent down until the committee appointed had first made its report. The Dean of WESTMINSTER said if he voted for this it would be with the distinct understanding that nothing more was to be done in the matter until the work was done. The amendment was then put to the vote, and was carried by twenty-three to nineteen. Another resolution was carried, to the effect that the duty of preparing a scheme of revision was committed to a joint committee, and as the power of dealing with this scheme was vested in that committee, the House deemed the committee alone responsible for the scheme, and requested to have a larger number of the House added to the committee.

When these resolutions were sent up to the bishops their lordships declared themselves unable to understand what they meant, and the Prolocutor, with the Dean of Westminster and other members, came up to explain them in a "free conference." In the end the bishops unanimously agreed to grant the request of the first resolution. In all, therefore, except the moral effect produced by the debates, and the fact that the Bishop of St. David's has resigned his connection with the revision scheme, the matter stands exactly as it did before Convocation assembled.

Convocation was on Saturday prorogued until the 13th of June. In the Lower House the Prolocutor, in accordance with the commands of the Upper House, nominated the Deans of Canterbury (Dr. Payne Smith), Ely (Dr. Merivale), Rochester (Dr. Scott), and the Archdeacon of Maidstone (Mr. Harrison), to fill the vacancies on the Revision Committee. Canon CONWAY presented a report from the Committee on the Burial Acts, praying the Upper House to oppose any such alterations in the law as were proposed in Parliament last year. The report was adopted. A resolution of sympathy with the Irish Church passed by the Upper House was also adopted. An amendment moved by Canon SELWYN, asserting that the Act of 1869 was passed in direct contravention of the fundamental statutes of the realm in the reigns of King William and Queen Mary and succeeding sovereigns, was negatived.

The Rev. Mr. Vance Smith, whom the bishops are so desirous to eliminate from the Revision Committee, is seriously ill. The *Echo*, however, reports that Mr. Vance Smith will continue to act, and that Bishop Thirlwall will withdraw his resignation.

The bill to amend the Burial Laws bears the names of Mr. Osborne Morgan, Mr. Hadfield, and Mr. McArthur.

Mr. Voysey, as was anticipated, has declined the offer of an opportunity to retract the opinion which were condemned by the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council. On the contrary, he "expressly and unreservedly" re-affirms them.

The *Tablet* confirms the statement that a Catholic Union is being founded in England, under the auspices of the Duke of Norfolk, to promote the interests of the Holy See by all the moral means in its power. It is to be composed of laymen, but it will work in strict obedience to the Church.

THE IRISH PRESBYTERIANS.—At a meeting of the special committee of the B. S. Stentation Fund of the Irish Presbyterian Church held in Belfast, it was announced that the committee will be in position on the 1st of April to pay an equivalent to the B. S.

Donum to all ministers entitled to receive payment; also a bonus by the latter end of the month to all ministers whose congregations shall have paid up fully their year's subscription by the 14th.

DEAN STANLEY ON THE EPISCOPACY.—In Convocation, on Tuesday, Dean Stanley protested against a passage in the report on "The appointments to Bishoprics," which said: "It is evident from Holy Scripture that the authority and founder of the Episcopate was Christ." The Dean observed: "To say that the Episcopate as it now exists, was founded and instituted as one of the universal and essential parts of the Christian religion by our Divine Redeemer, appears to me little short of profanity."

CHURCH OF IRELAND SUSTENTATION FUND.—A general lay committee for raising a Sustenance Fund for the Church of Ireland is about to be formed, under the sanction and approval of the Archbishops of Canterbury and York. The meeting of the General Synod, for which no time is fixed, it is hoped will make an end of strifes which the last convention, not being an assembly of final appeal, could not authoritatively determine. The clergy and the Representative Body have failed up to the present time to come to any agreement on the subject of commutation, the clergy not being satisfied with the life-tables selected by the Representative Body, for calculating the vested interest of each incumbent.

PHYSICIAN, HEAL THYSELF!—*Church Bells*, the editor of which is the Rev. Erskine Clarke, says:—"It appears that at the present time there are upwards of one hundred sects in England and Wales who are Nonconformists in regard to the Church, and are divided in regard to each other. Can anyone suppose that such a state of things—such a 'Christian world' as this—would be agreeable to the mind of St. Paul if he were now among us, or that it represents the Church of Christ in such a condition as he wills? No wonder if Infidelity advances while Schism thus abounds!" The writer seems to forget that inside the Church of England the differences are quite as wide as they are outside; and it is this rather than that causes the abounding infidelity, if infidelity does abound. Men of the world can understand the liberty claimed and exercised by the Free Churches, but what they cannot understand, or reconcile with the commonest principles of honesty, is that men who have signed the same articles, given their unfeigned assent and consent to the same doctrines, should be anathematising each other so lustily, having no common ground of unity save and except the connection with and pay of the State.—*From a Correspondent.*

DIVISION ON THE UNIVERSITY TESTS BILL.—In the first division on the University Tests Bill on Monday night more than fifty Liberals (including the members of the Government) voted against Mr. Stevenson's proposition to throw open Divinity degrees without any religious test. The Dissenting members almost unanimously voted with Mr. Stevenson. Both Mr. Edward Baines and Mr. Charles Reed on this occasion opposed the Government. Mr. Miall, Mr. Morley, and Mr. Winterbotham abstained from voting. In the next division, on Mr. Fawcett's proposition to make the holding of fellowships no longer dependent upon entering holy orders, very few independent Liberals (exclusive of the Roman Catholic members) voted with the Government. Among them were Sir Thomas Baxley, Lord F. C. Cavendish and Lord G. Cavendish, Mr. Thomas Chambers, Mr. Harvey Lewis, and Sir Roundell Palmer. On this occasion Mr. Samuel Morley supported the Government, and was the only independent Protestant Nonconformist who did so. Several Roman Catholic members (including Mr. Maguire) and the whole body of the Nonconformists (Mr. Miall and Mr. Winterbotham included) were against the Government.

DEATH OF THE REV. DR. GODWIN.—We regret to announce the death of the Rev. Benjamin Godwin, D.D., which took place on Monday morning, at the residence of his son, Mr. J. V. Godwin, Rawdon, in his eighty-sixth year. Among a generation of Bradford men, of which there are now but few representatives left, the venerable doctor filled an honourable and distinguished place. Some idea of the time over which his public career has extended is furnished by the fact that he was the first minister of Zion Baptist Chapel, whose congregation are now about to erect a jubilee memorial building. In that capacity, and as classical tutor at Horton College, he acquired the love and esteem of all those with whom his labours brought him into connection. But to the public at large he was best known by his lectures on the Slave Trade and Infidelity. The latter work is one of enduring interest. The doctor was an ardent abolitionist, and took an active part in the agitation which resulted in the removal from our West Indian possessions of the curse of slavery. To this cause he was attached to the end, and almost the last occasion on which he emerged from the retirement in which his ripe old age was passed, was on the holding of the meeting in the Bradford Mechanics' Institute, to protest against the conduct of Governor Eyre, in the troubles which occurred in Jamaica in 1865. The funeral, we understand, will take place at the Undercliffe Cemetery at noon on Thursday.—*Bradford Observer.*

THE BISHOPS AND THE CLERICAL OPPONENTS OF LAY TRIBUNALS.—In the Upper House of Convocation on Friday, the Bishop of London presented a petition, signed by 900 clergymen of the Church of England, protesting against the recent decision of the Judicial Committee in the case of the Rev. Mr. Mackenzie, urging that it was a lay tribunal to which they could not submit, and praying for protection against its decisions in spiritual matters. His lordship said that he had had some misgivings about pre-

senting the petition in consequence of some phrases in it, but on consideration he had come to the conclusion that the petitioners did not in any way intend to resist lawful authority, and therefore he presented it to their lordships to lie upon their table. The Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol thought it was a very improper thing that that House of Convocation should be the medium of publishing petitions which, to some extent at least, threatened a violation of the law. The Bishop of Peterborough also thought that their lordships' House should take some measures to prevent it from being the means of giving publicity and advertisement to statements and allegations which their lordships could not accept. He should move—

That inasmuch as the statements in the petition now presented to this House by — do not necessarily imply an announcement on the part of the petitioners of their intention to refuse obedience to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, the House consents to receive the petition.

The Bishop of St. David's thought there was a fatal objection to the petition in itself; that was, it contained language which it would be impossible for their lordships, considering what they owed to the Constitution of the realm, to accept. He should therefore move, "That this petition be not received." The Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol seconded the motion; on which the Bishop of Peterborough withdrew his resolution. The Bishop of Winchester thought that to reject the petition would be a tyrannical stretch of the authority wisely granted by Parliament. The Privy Council settled all the accidents of spiritual things, and taking that view, he did not think the clergymen—900 in number—who had signed that petition had done any wrong in endeavouring to lay down the difference between things spiritual and things temporal. The Bishop of St. David's amendment was put. It received 5 votes, 8 against, some prelates declining to vote. The Bishop of Peterborough then renewed his motion. All he intended to do was to guard the House against inflammatory manifestoes under the guise of petitions. There appeared on a division, 5 for the motion and 7 against. The petition was then ordered to lie on the table.

Religious and Denominational News.

The Rev. Walter Morrison, M.A., of Glasgow, has accepted the unanimous call given him by the United Presbyterian Church in Westbourne-grove.

Mr. John Christopher Nesbitt, of Lancashire College, has accepted the unanimous invitation of the church and congregation worshipping in Duke's-alley Chapel, Bolton, to become their pastor.

Mr. John Williams Best, of Lancashire College, has accepted the unanimous invitation of the church and congregation worshipping in the Congregational Chapel, Cheadle Hulme, to become their pastor.

The Rev. H. J. Wonnacott, of Hackney College, has accepted a hearty and unanimous invitation from the Luton Congregational Church to its pastorate, recently vacated by the Rev. J. H. Hitchens. Mr. Wonnacott enters upon his office the first Sunday in March.

BERMONDSEY.—In our notice of the opening of the Rouel-road Chapel last week, there was a slight error. We ought to have stated that the architects were Messrs. Lander and Bedells, and the builder, Mr. B. Wells.

WARWICK.—On Tuesday evening, the 14th inst., a new organ was opened in Brook-street Independent Chapel in this town. Its capabilities were tested by the performance of a series of pieces from the most eminent composers. These were interspersed with selections of vocal music, given by the choir, and two hymns, sung by the whole assembly. There was a crowded attendance, presided over by the Rev. G. Shaw, the minister of the place; and a very delightful evening was enjoyed. The organ has been built at a considerable cost, the whole of which—by previous efforts, the sale of the old organ, and the recent opening services of Tuesday and Sunday last, has been provided.

THE REV. R. V. PRYCE, M.A., LL.B., being about to leave Brighton for a distant city, the members of the Brighton Ministerial Theological Society have presented him with an address in which they tender to him their affectionate regard and esteem, and give expression to every good wish for his future. The address says:—"In the case of some of us the friendship of years will thus be severed by distance—a friendship in which there has been no coldness, and over which—save for our common sorrows—there has been no cloud. In the case of all of us the loss will be felt of one whose wide scholarship, whose keen intelligence, and whose earnest spirit, have ever been a power in our midst. We hope for another opportunity of testifying to our sense of the value of your services in Brighton, both as a minister and as a man, but could not content ourselves without this more fraternal expression of affection towards one who has ever been so highly esteemed amongst us." The address is signed by the Revs. H. Bromley, S. S. England, J. B. Figgis, M.A., A. Foyster, R. Hamilton, W. J. Smith, and J. Wilkins.

TRINITY CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, DEWSBURY.—This substantial, commodious, and elegant place of worship, built for the congregation under the care of the Rev. E. H. Weeks, has recently been opened. The edifice, which is of the classic style of architecture, seats upwards of a thousand persons, and has been erected on an eligible and central site, at a cost of above eight thousand pounds. There is in addition, on the basement floor, a large schoolroom, infant-class, and other class-rooms, lecture-room, &c., besides usual vestries, and other conveniences, the various rooms comprising accommodation for more than seven hundred scholars. The opening services

commenced on Jan. 17, with a dedicatory prayer-meeting, presided over by the pastor, assisted by ministers of various denominations from the town and neighbourhood, and other friends. The Rev. Dr. Campbell, of Bradford, and Dr. Mellor, of Halifax, preached on Wednesday, Jan. 18, and the Revs. Dr. Fraser, of Bradford, Dr. Felding, of Rotherham, and J. P. Chown (Baptist), of Bradford, the subsequent sermons. Two festival tea-meetings, largely attended, were also held. The attendance at the services was exceedingly good, and the collections very encouraging. After a pastorate over two churches in Dewsbury, extending to eighteen years, and marked by much of unity and spiritual success, and a pastorate in addition, in the interim, of nine years in Manchester, the Rev. E. H. Weeks has been compelled, through several years of failing health, and a debility recently rapidly increasing, to resign his charge, and retire from regular active ministerial life. He concludes his services at Trinity the last Lord's Day in this month.

THE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY AND CLERKENWELL WORKHOUSE.—The members of the Christian Community gave the annual treat to the poor inmates of of this workhouse on Thursday, the 9th inst. In the early part of the evening the poor people, numbering about 500, were each supplied with half-a-pound of cake, the sick with a bag of grapes, the rest with oranges. This gift was very highly appreciated by all, and many sincere expressions of gratitude were bestowed on the kind donors. Many visitors were present, to whom the establishment was open for inspection. A goodly number availed themselves of the privilege, and went from ward to ward, speaking a kindly word to the sick and infirm, and one party engaged in singing several very popular melodies, which the poor women very much enjoyed. At six o'clock the visitors partook of tea in the spacious board-room, kindly placed at the disposal of the friends by the kind Master. At seven o'clock the meeting was opened in the women's hall by the usual devotions. Dr. Ellis was called to the chair, and delivered an earnest address, and was followed by the Revs. J. H. Rose (chaplain), E. Couch, M.A., F.S.A., and Messrs. H. Webber, G. Kirkham, and J. C. Masters; and the hour from nine to ten o'clock was devoted to sacred music, which was very much enjoyed by the women. As the women's hall was too small for both males and females, a second meeting for men was organised in the men's hall, under the chairmanship of Mr. W. Ward, and earnest addresses were given by several speakers. In order to extend the meetings and treats to the other workhouses on the society's list, an earnest appeal is made to the Christian public for funds towards this most desirable object, a change of this kind to the poor people from the monotony of a workhouse life being both healthful and enjoyable. Donations can be sent to the secretary, at the office, Mr. J. Atkinson, Mission Room, Flemming-street, Kingsland.

Correspondence.

DO NONCONFORMISTS SUPPORT THE LATE EXCLUSIVE PROCEEDINGS IN CONVOCATION?

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—I read with some surprise in the speeches of the Bishops of Winchester and Gloucester advocating, in Convocation, the exclusion of the Unitarian, Dr. Vance Smith, from the Revision Committee, that the proposal had the earnest sympathy and support of the Nonconformist body. Some eminent Nonconformists, it was alleged, had "protested" against the co-operation of men who denied the Godhead of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the presence of such in the great work was generally "disliked." Their outraged feelings indeed were ostentatiously paraded.

I need not apologise for wishing to bring this matter under your special attention, for as it now stands a grave inconsistency is chargeable on Nonconformists. I pass over what the Dean of Westminster has called a "breach of good faith" in endeavouring to set aside a resolution inviting to the Revision Committee "the co-operation of any eminent for scholarship to whatsoever nation or religious body they may belong"—a resolution which inspired public confidence, and led to pecuniary contributions from Unitarians as from others towards the expense of the undertaking. But how can Nonconformists plead for the removal of University Tests, if they, in a work of pure scholarship and criticism, sanction the establishment of a theological test? I have been for many years a subscriber to the Liberation Society, whose principle is religious equality; but how can this principle be consistently advocated by such as violate all equality, both of scholarship and Nonconformity, in refusing to co-operate with such a man as Dr. Vance Smith in the work of Biblical revision? Is there to be no faith nor fellowship kept with heretics even in the walks of literature and science? What has a difference in theological opinion to do with the collation or translation of the Sacred Text, except to ensure greater accuracy, and prevent the influence of sectarian bias in a book which is the common property of all men?

I appeal with some confidence to your long-tried advocacy of a great principle of liberty, to see that those who are presumed to be its friends are not stultified by the foolish action of Convocation. This body has, by its shameful bigotry, forfeited that public confidence which ought to be associated with any re-

vision of the Scriptures; and the needful work can now only be carried out by a Royal Commission, chosen simply on the ground of learning, irrespective of theological connection. A movement to attain this end ought to command the support of all Nonconformists, who would find in it an appropriate sphere to advance a principle of equality and national enlightenment, in opposition to the miserable exclusiveness of the Bishops.

I am, yours, &c.,
THOMAS HUNTER.

Feb. 20.

THE CONGREGATIONALISTS OF CAMBRIDGE.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—In your paper of the 15th was a prominent article entitled, "Free-Churchism in Cambridge." To prevent misapprehension, let me say that in my opinion there is no body of Christians in England, who, if in the position of the Congregationalists of Cambridge, would not desire and strive to obtain a new chapel in a new position. Whether the scale of expense they have adopted be discreet, it is not for me to decide.

The article referred to contains this sentence. In Cambridge "the Establishment is everything, and Dissent is well-nigh lost to sight. The colleges and fine buildings are all connected with the Church, whilst Nonconformity flourishes in strict retirement, and without any outward signs of vitality." Not more untrue would be the assertion that in London, or in all England, Dissent is well-nigh lost to sight. And if it be replied that the reference is to buildings, and to buildings only, I can only rejoin that, woe is to us if, identifying Dissent with bricks and mortar, or with steeples and gothic arches, we substitute the shadow for the substance.

The same article speaks with approval of the tendency "towards complete freedom of thought and of worship;" and of the importance of teaching the people of this town that there is nothing in Nonconformity which forbids the holding of decorous and beautiful services. . . . I have known the last four ministers of the Congregational Chapel somewhat intimately, namely, Mr. Babier, Mr. Tritton, Mr. Finlayson, and Mr. Norris. Does the writer mean to suggest that they had not freedom of thought and worship? and does he mean to insinuate that the services by them conducted were devoid of beauty and decorum? I do not believe that "Free-Churchism in Cambridge" is contingent on "fine buildings," in which "complete freedom of thought" not now existing, is to be secured; and in which are to be performed services beautiful and decorous, in contrast to the "imperfect and indecorous services" of Nonconformist ministers of every persuasion in times past. Trusting to your fairness to insert this protest against the misrepresentations by which a good "case" has been marred.

I am Sir, yours truly,
W. ROBINSON.

Cambridge, Feb. 20, 1871.

[We have taken leave to omit from Mr. Robinson's letter a quotation from another newspaper, for which we are of course not responsible. Our friend has, we think, hardly been sufficiently mindful of the fact that our article was written purely from a chapel-building point of view.—ED. NONCON.]

THE OLDHAM LOTTERY.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

DEAR SIR,—I have been informed by the Rev. Canon Birch, rector of Prestwich-um-Oldham, that he knows nothing of the lottery for a Day and Sunday-school, on which Mr. Griffith commented, in your impression of the 8th inst.; that the person who has issued the tickets, and who calls himself, we believe, "Vicar of Banktop, Oldham," is unknown to him and his name does not appear in the Clergy List. Canon Birch cautioned everybody, who has applied to him on the subject, not to have anything to do with it. If the whole affair is a swindle, the Sunday-school movement is not justly chargeable with the crime of offering wine, beer, and cigars, as prizes in a lottery. I venture to think that Mr. Griffiths, as well as others of your readers, will be pleased to hear that the lottery in question is believed to be not for a religious object.

I am, yours truly,
WILLIAM CROKE SQUIER.
Stand, near Manchester, Feb. 16, 1871.

EVANGELICAL CONTINENTAL SOCIETY.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR,—May I ask you to insert the following letter from Mr. Fisch? I earnestly hope that our Churches will send us a little help for poor France.

Yours truly,
J. SHEDLOCK.
7, Blomfield-street, E.C., February 15, 1871.

Paris, Feb. 6, 1871.
My Dear Friend,—I am in receipt of your most excellent and kind letter. It was the first letter from the outside of Paris which reached me, the first breaking of the thick cloud which had so completely hidden the outer world from the poor besieged city. And that first break of the cloud was a delightful sunbeam. I cannot express to you my gratitude for your kind appeals, and for the munificent way in which you and

your committee came to our rescue in our great afflictions. I remembered the words, "a brother born for adversity."

Among all the excellent news which your letter contained, my dear friend, the order to draw upon you for 100*l.* was not the least welcome. The position of our Churches in Paris is very sad. All their members are impoverished, and have spent upon the relief of the wounded their remaining resources. The special work I am doing in the heart of the city was exposed to ruin. I will take the liberty which you grant me about that sum in helping that work which was so much blessed during the siege.

You ask me kindly how you may come to our help in Paris. Our wants will indeed be very great. As soon as the armistice is over payments to National Guards and the poor 1,600,000 will cease. The misery will be awful, for work will not be resumed immediately; it will require weeks and months before business will be brisk again. We had our twelve ounces of terrible black bread and our daily ounce of horseflesh at a cheap rate. As soon as the Government lets the sale of victuals go on the dearth will be great. Every one is enfeebled in health. Yesterday one of our Bible-women fell motionless in a chair, and is now unable to walk. One of our Evangelists is in the same state. It will require time to strengthen the emaciated bodies, to clothe those who could not provide anything but bread and meat. Indeed, the wants of our population will be more pressing in two months than they are now. I am sure that the Lord will help the good work, and the benevolence of our friends in England will smoothe many sufferings.

However, it appears to me that the chief efforts of the excellent brethren who are disposed to help us must be directed towards the maintenance of the spiritual work. Others will have to care chiefly for the body. We must use this unique opportunity of preaching Christ with increased vigour among our humbled and heartbroken fellow citizens. They are ready to hear a comforting truth.

I will draw upon you as soon as possible. Again, the most hearty thanks for your remittance to the Yonne, and for the kind promise to provide for the present quarter.

We see that God's word is pure gold. In our impotence I remitted all to His fatherly care, and He has fulfilled His word. To Him be glory everlasting!

The sending of the munificent help from London through Messrs. W. Stuart-Wortley and Moore was not only a great material help, but a spiritual blessing will reflect powerfully upon the kingdom of God. Whilst Prussia proves that Protestant countries are powerful in the war—a proof which we received in the form of defeats, sufferings, and bombs—that generous help proved that Protestantism is equally powerful in good works and comfort for the afflicted. Neither Spain, nor Italy, nor Austria were willing or able to do anything for us. That will not be forgotten.

Yours sincerely,
G. FISCH.

THE FRENCH MISSION IN SOUTH AFRICA.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

MY DEAR SIR,—Knowing the principles you advocate may I not ask the favour of allowing the enclosed appeal to appear in the columns of your valued paper? It may arrest the attention of some who might feel a pleasure to contribute towards an object which calls for Christian sympathy.

Yours, with much esteem,
ROBERT MOFFAT.

7, Belford-cottages, Brixington-road,
Brixton, S.W.

APPEAL FOR THE FRENCH BASUTO MISSION OF THE PARIS MISSIONARY SOCIETY.

The French Protestant Mission among the Basutos, of South Africa has been known to the friends of Christian missions for many years. It has been exposed to heavy trials. At one period, owing to the war with the Boers of the Free State, its stations were nearly all destroyed, several of the missionaries were driven from the territory, and their personal losses and sufferings were very great. They were too modest to complain of the ravages made upon their property, and all who could remained by their people to the last. There are some twelve faithful missionaries so labouring among the Basuto tribes at the present time. God has blessed their work, and honoured their toil. Churches and schools have been established throughout a country which was one of the dark places of the earth, its caverns the abode of cannibals. A large portion of the Scriptures and elementary works have been printed and circulated. An institution was commenced for training evangelists and preachers. Thousands of people attend public services.

The war raging in France has seriously affected the resources of these brethren. Paris, from which they draw their supplies, has been long closed against them, and even before the siege they were requested not to draw on their society. On this point one of their number, the Rev. F. Coillard, in a letter to me, says:—

"The news of the awful war which is spreading desolation in my native land has fallen upon us like a thunderbolt. We were not prepared for that. Our hearts bleed—our sorrow cannot be expressed. The committee have been obliged to stop our drawing any money. For ourselves, we all are ready to face any sacrifices, but we have to fulfil building contracts, and money we must find—where and when God knows. Shall He not put it into the hearts of some of His people, in England or elsewhere, to come to our help? Our church, which is a large one, will in a few days be ready for the roof, and as it is built by contract, we cannot, especially at this stage, stop the work. Could you remember us, dear Mr. Moffat, and commend us to the prayers and sympathy of some friends? Our work had never brighter prospects; we have now three annexes or out-stations, and we hope soon to add to the number. Through all Basutoland the work presents an encouraging aspect."

May I ask the friends of their mission to consider the painful position in which these brethren are placed? Will none sympathise with them in the heavy trial which they are called to bear, and help to sustain them in their useful labours, until their brethren in France

are able once more to bear the burden of the mission, and the people in which they feel so deep an interest? Contributions for this purpose may be forwarded to the London Missionary Society, Blomfield-street, London, E.C., or to the Hon. A. Kinnsaid, M.P., 2, Pall-mall East, S.W.; by whom they will be despatched to South Africa by the earliest mail.

ROBERT MOFFAT.

Mission House, Blomfield-street,
January 27, 1871.

Donation Received.
John Cunliffe, Esq. . . . £200 0 0

Parliamentary Intelligence.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

THE BOARD OF ADMIRALTY.

On Thursday, the Duke of Somerset having given notice of a motion for the Select Committee to inquire into the recent changes and present working of the Board of Admiralty,

Lord HALIFAX appealed to him not to press for the committee in the absence of Mr. Childers, who, it was hoped, would resume his duties in a month.

The Duke of Somerset declined to wait for the return of Mr. Childers, and, amid Opposition cheers, declared his intention to go on. Mr. Childers would be examined as a witness when he returned, and would have a full opportunity of explaining his views. And if it was urged that personal questions should be avoided, who first raised these questions? Who first attacked a colleague, and sent the attack to the newspapers without the colleague having the opportunity of seeing it? Was it for the public advantage, or fair between man and man, for the head of a department to go behind a colleague's back, write a report condemning him, and send it to the newspapers without his seeing it? If the First Lord chose to treat the naval men around him as mere clerks, sending one away, and appointing another, there would not only be great discontent, but great inefficiency. Mr. Childers declared in the House of Commons over and over again that he was responsible for everything, everybody else being responsible to him; the responsibility to Parliament and the country rested entirely on himself. When, however, the loss of the Captain happened, he wrote, as soon as he had recovered from the shock, an elaborate report to show that he was not responsible at all. He laid the responsibility on the Controller of the Navy. In reality, however, there had been a report by the Controller condemnatory of the Captain as early as May, 1870. The First Lord laid on the table of the House of Commons a laudatory report from Sir Thomas Symonds in July, 1870, but he did not produce the condemnatory report. Although the Controller pointed out when it was built that it was two feet deeper than it ought to have been, he absolutely, when Mr. Reel, the chief constructor, was sent away, sent for the builder of the Captain to take his place at the Admiralty. The Duke added that there had hardly been a meeting of the board for weeks and weeks. As to the Estimates, he denied that they were settled by Mr. Childers. He settled only the first two votes, but not the most important ones, and the memorandum he left was altogether set aside when he was gone. "And this is what the House of Commons calls perfect responsibility, having one man entirely responsible! A vessel goes down, and nobody is responsible. Estimates are brought forward, and nobody is responsible."

Lord MELVILLE having seconded the motion, Lord CAMPERDOWN briefly replied. He denied that Mr. Childers treated the naval lords like clerks. They had daily reports of what was going on. The number of the men in the dockyards and navy and the whole skeleton of the Estimates were drawn by by the First Lord.

Lord GREY urged that an important change in the constitution of the Admiralty having been for some two years in operation, it was right that they should make inquiry how it worked. Would the loss of the Captain have occurred if the old system of conducting business at the Admiralty had been adhered to? If the naval lords had discussed, in the presence of the First Lord, the propriety of sending such a ship as the Captain to sea with masts and sails at a stormy season of the year, would that ship have been allowed to incur the risk to which she was exposed? He believed it would not; at all events, there would have been no question then as to who was responsible. Lord HARDWICK pointed out that the fleet was mainly composed of experimental ships, each differing from the other, so that there was necessarily a great delay and expense in repairing them. Each vessel being a class by itself there could be no common arrangements for them. After a few words from Lord HALIFAX, and a communication between the whip and Mr. Gladstone at the bar, the Government withdrew their opposition, and the Committee was ordered.

The House adjourned at a quarter to seven o'clock.

On Friday, Lord DUFFERIN (in reply to Lord CLANRICARDE) stated that it was the intention of Her Majesty's Government to bring in a bill this session to amend the law in Ireland relating to bankruptcy and to imprisonment for debt, and to assimilate it to the English law. Lord CAMPERDOWN laid on the table Sir Spencer Robinson's reply to Mr. Childers' Minute on the loss of the Captain, and also the correspondence between the Admiralty and Sir James Hope. Their Lordships adjourned at half-past five.

RESIGNATION OF BENEFICES.

On Monday the Bishop of WINCHESTER moved the second reading of the Benefices Resignation

Bill, enabling incumbents incapacitated by age or bodily infirmity to retire with the consent of the bishop and patron, upon a pension not exceeding one-third the value of the living. Explaining that the bill would only restore the ancient law of the Church, he defended it as an act of charity and justice to the clergy. It was impossible for the great majority to lay by a sufficient provision for their old age, and they were now driven either to resign their livings altogether, or to continue to fulfil spiritual functions which they felt themselves incompetent to discharge. Parliament had recognised the principle in its application to the Episcopacy, and the claims of the parochial clergy were at least as great. He especially advocated the bill in the interests of the parishes which, when the incumbent became feeble and past his work, too often became a dead level of stagnation. The case of the smaller benefices it was proposed to meet by a readjustment of Queen Anne's Bounty (the details of which he explained), and by soliciting help from patrons and others. Precautions were taken against the perpetration of jobs, and he proposed that if any indifference arose between the patron and bishop, an appeal should lie to the archbishop of the province. He proposed to fix the age at which retirement might be claimed at sixty, and, finally, in the name of the clergy, the National Church, and the parishes, he called upon their lordships to assent to this most moderate reform.

Lord ROMILLY opposed the bill as injurious to the interests of the Church itself. It was not a matter of justice at all, but simply a matter of finance, and he urged that it would seriously affect the independence of the clergy, and the efficiency of the lay element of the Church. He pointed out cases in which the operation of the bill would be unfavourable to the Church, and regarded with jealousy the growing disposition of the bishops to interfere with the financial affairs and independence of the parochial clergy. Lay patronage was a very beneficial element in the Church, and he deprecated anything which would weaken it. He objected to this and its companion measures as likely to further the efforts of those persons who wished to remove the episcopal bench from their lordships' House and to overthrow the Established Church, and as likely also to alienate the best friends of the Church. He moved that the bill be read again that day six months.

Lord SALISBURY, reminding their lordships that this was a purely permissive and voluntary bill, said that the principle of superannuation, as applied to judges and all other public servants, had been not less extensively than beneficially adopted. It had also been applied to the bishops, and it would now be a wise and necessary reform to extend the principle to the inferior clergy.

Lord HARROWBY accepted the bill as just in principle and beneficial in its operation.

Lord Cairns said that his objections to the bill of last year were greatly modified by the alterations now made in regard to the rights of patrons, &c. An incumbent might at sixty be very competent to perform his spiritual functions, and great care would be necessary to prevent the door being opened to jobbery. The retiring incumbent was to be subject to ecclesiastical discipline, but under the bill of last year he might retire from orders, and advocate heretical doctrines while continuing to receive his retiring pension.

Lord STANHOPE contended that Lord Romilly had by no means made out his case that this was solely a matter of finance.

The bill was read a second time without a division, and

Their Lordships adjourned shortly before half-past six.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

MARRIAGE WITH A DECEASED WIFE'S SISTER.

On Wednesday, the only bill on the paper for discussion was Mr. T. Chambers's measure for legalising marriage with a deceased wife's sister. The debate was entirely one-sided, and at one period even almost assumed the appearance of a debate against time. Mr. CHAMBERS having moved the second reading, Sir H. SELWYN-IBERTSON made the counter motion that it be read a second time that day six months in a couple of sentences, declining to repeat the well-worn arguments against it. There was then a slight pause, and the Speaker was about to put the question, when Mr. KNATCHBULL-HUGGESS rose to continue the debate, dwelling on the violation of civil and religious liberty inevitable on the present law of marriage, and the impolicy of the Church imposing on the people a restriction which they believed to be sanctioned neither by Scripture nor social convenience. Mr. Monk, Mr. Campbell, Mr. Orr-Ewing and Colonel Sykes having expressed their opinions on the bill,

Mr. MORLEY argued in favour of these marriages as being the most natural and convenient among the poorer classes, and Mr. CHAMBERS complained with unusual warmth of the silence of the Opposition, which he maintained was the result of a preconcerted design to snatch a division against the bill. He went on to confute, at considerable length, the arguments which on this occasion had not been urged against the bill, and insisted that in the present state of the question the existing restrictions were forced on the country by the votes of some four or five Bishops. Mr. H. PALMER and Mr. DENMAN also spoke in favour of the bill, and on a division the second reading was carried by 125 to 84.

Mr. GURNEY re-introduced his Public Prosecutors Bill, and several other bills of minor importance were brought in and read a first time.

The House adjourned at half-past two o'clock.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

On Thursday there was a crowded House to hear Mr. Cardwell's statement on the new Army Bill. The Prince of Wales, Prince Arthur, Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar, Prince Christian, Sir W. Mansfield, &c., had seats in the peers' gallery. Sir H. Storks arrived in time to take the oaths and his seat on the Treasury Bench.

In reply to Sir H. J. Hay, Mr. GLADSTONE explained that Mr. Odo Russell's declaration to Count Bismarck that the question of the Black Sea clause was one which in a certain form would compel us, with or without allies, to go to war with Russia, was not specifically authorised by Her Majesty's Government; but diplomatic agents had a discretion as to the mode in which they could best support the propositions they had in hand, and therefore he did not blame Mr. Odo Russell.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER intimated that personally he was in favour of a Government Life Insurance Office, but he did not think that feeling was generally shared in the country.

Mr. GLADSTONE supplemented Lord Granville's information as to the American Commission by the statement that it would, by common consent, include all claims for compensation which have been, or may be made by each Government, or by its citizens, upon the other.

Mr. A. HERBERT elicited from the Premier that the French authorities had desired us to assist them by a prompt recognition of the new Government, and that our Government would be prepared to recognise it with the least possible delay on its assuming office.

In reply to Mr. W. H. Smith, Mr. GLADSTONE said the Government were in communication with the heads of the Church on the subject of the Ritual Commission reports.

In reply to Mr. Charley, Mr. BRUCE said the Government were not themselves prepared to bring in a bill for the protection of infant life this session, but the measure of the hon. member on that subject would receive attentive consideration.

In reply to Mr. Dickinson, Mr. CARDWELL said the net increase of the army since the 1st of August, 1870, had been 18,361 men.

In reply to Mr. L. King, Mr. GLADSTONE said he could not name an early day for bringing in a bill on the subject of Real Estate Intestacy, but he could assure his hon. friend that it was his desire to deal with that question at as early a date as possible in the present session. (Hear, hear.)

In reply to Mr. Holmes, Mr. GOSCHEN said that the number of cases of smallpox reported among the pauper population of the metropolis was about 1,300. Accommodation had been provided by the metropolitan asylums for 520, and by the guardians for 300. They were, however, 400 beds short that day, but to-morrow seventy more would be provided, and during the next fortnight about 500. In the whole the beds provided would then exceed the number of cases at present known; some of the accommodation provided by the guardians was of an insufficient and temporary character, and it might be necessary for them to provide 500 more. The majority of the unprovided patients were in Bethnal-green, Shoreditch, and Whitechapel districts.

MILITARY REORGANISATION.

The House went into Committee of Supply.

Mr. CARDWELL, in formally moving the Army Estimates, explained at length the new scheme of Army Reorganisation, the object of which, he said, was to combine in one harmonious whole all the branches of our military forces. But, referring first to a few of the most important items in the Estimates, he mentioned that the amount asked for this year (15,851,700*l.*) was an increase of 2,886,700*l.* over last year's votes; but of this at least 1,000,000*l.* would not be required in ordinary times. He defended his administration also from Mr. Disraeli's charge of "attenuated regiments," and showed that under these estimates we should have some 497,000 men under arms, say 135,000 Regulars (of whom 108,000 would be in this country), 139,000 Militia, 14,000 Yeomanry, 9,000 First Army Reserve, 30,000 Second Army Reserve and Pensioners, and 170,000 Volunteers; and in addition to this we had now guns for a force of 150,000 men. Passing, then, to the provisions of the new scheme, the first point to be settled was whether our army should be based on the footing of voluntary or compulsory service, and after examining the arguments on each side, he stated that the Government could not propose a change so distasteful as compulsory service unless under a greater necessity than existed at present. Agreeing with Lord Derby that it would be cheapest to pay for our military labour, they would not recommend compulsory service, but there would be clauses in the bill enabling the Government to raise any number of men upon necessity. That being settled, next came the question, how are our forces to be raised? This divided itself into two parts—shall the purchase system be abolished? and shall the auxiliary forces of the country continue to be under the Lords-Lieutenant of Counties? For it would be impossible for our Army, Militia, and Volunteers to be amalgamated and interchangeable if the officers of one portion were under the Crown and a purchase system, while the others were under the Lords-Lieutenant and on a footing of non-purchase. It was impossible to stir a step, therefore, without coming to a decision on these points, and after summing up the arguments for and against the purchase system, Mr. Cardwell announced, amid loud cheers from his own side of the House, that the Government had determined to propose its abolition. This decision involved the necessity of accepting a system of retirement and promotion by selection as distinguished from seniority, and in addition the payment of a large sum of money

by way of compensation, which he calculated would range from 7,400,000*l.* to 8,400,000*l.* After a certain day to be named in the bill, no pecuniary interest would be taken by any one in any new commission; but no officer would be the worse in a pecuniary sense by the abolition of purchase, for the over-regulation as well as the regulation price would be paid. A commission would be appointed to ascertain the over-regulation price in every regiment, and, with money from the Consolidated Fund, would stand in the place of a purchaser to the officer who wished to sell out, to retire on half-pay, &c. The regulations under which this commission would act were minutely explained by Mr. Cardwell, and he mentioned that the number allowed to retire each year would be limited to the average of the last five years. With regard to first commissions, they would be given without purchase to the general public by competitive examination, to subalterns of militia regiments after two years' good-service, and, as before, to non-commissioned officers. The selection of officers for promotion would be vested in the Commander-in-Chief, under the guidance of elaborate regulations; and, while promotions in the lower ranks would be regimental, from captain to lieutenant-colonel they would be army promotions, and the period of service would be limited. Mr. Cardwell next explained his proposals for the reorganisation of the auxiliary forces, which are to be transferred from the Lords-Lieutenant to the direct control of the Queen. In every district there would be a colonel of the staff attached to the general for every 15,000 or 20,000 of the auxiliary forces, who would be in command of them and responsible for them. Promotions would be made in the same manner as in the regular forces, and more frequent opportunities would be taken to brigade the militia and volunteers with the regulars, to send the volunteers to camps of instruction (where they would be under the Mutiny Act), to require stricter proofs of competence from officers, and more frequent and regular attendance from the men. Mr. Cardwell mentioned also many other minor changes which it is proposed to make. For instance, the exemption from the ballot in the case of the volunteers is to be abolished, and, if a corps is not satisfactorily reported on by the inspecting officer, the grant will be withdrawn. With regard to the regular army, steps will be taken to give a local connection to every regiment, and local centres of training will be established both for the regulars and militia. At the conclusion of his speech, which occupied two hours, Mr. Cardwell was loudly cheered.

After a few words from Sir J. PAKINGTON, it was agreed to postpone further discussion until the bill has been printed and circulated.

DOWRY OF THE PRINCESS LOUISE.

Mr. GLADSTONE's motion to grant 30,000*l.* as a dowry to the Princess Louise, was, according to notice, opposed by Mr. P. A. TAYLOR, who argued that such provision should be made out of the Civil List, and that in the present instance the Princess had freed herself from those fetters of State which it was necessary to gild. He reminded the House that the money formerly paid to the Crown was not so purely applicable to personal demands as it now was, Queen Anne having devoted considerable sums towards the support of the war, the building of Blenheim, and other purposes, while George I. gave 100,000*l.* towards the support of his heir. If the Queen's income must be compared with that of any other Sovereign, it should be compared with the income of the ruler of the great nation across the Atlantic sprung from the same race as ourselves, and then the difference between 600,000*l.* and 5,000*l.* a year was rather striking. Mr. TAYLOR spoke amid repeated interruptions and cries of "Oh!" and "Divide."

Mr. DISRAELI observed that across the Atlantic the people were the Sovereign, and, reckoning the allowances to the Legislature, cost a good deal. Mr. Brassey's death the other day, leaving three or four millions, showed the absurdity of legislating on the old political superstition that one must guard against the Crown being in the possession of property to an amount which might be dangerous to the liberties of England. His own opinion was that instead of the Civil List an estate should have been settled on the Sovereign, with a special allowance for public pageantry revised every ten years or so. He commended a marriage which was as wise as it was romantic, and felt proud that a member of the House of Commons was to be honoured by the hand of a Princess.

Sir R. PEEL, with some warmth, complained of the misrepresentations of the Premier on this subject. The grant to the Sovereign was for the representation of the Crown, and he shared the opinion very common in the country that it was to be regretted that the large sum thus given was not devoted to the representation of the Crown, and for many years had not been devoted to that purpose. When a foreign Sovereign or distinguished stranger came to England it was painful to Englishmen to find that the enormous income which was granted to the Sovereign for the representation of the State was not devoted in the way contemplated by Parliament. ("Hear, hear," and some murmurs.) He had no wish to stint the Sovereign. He would have the allowance made on the most liberal scale, and would vote, if necessary, for doubling the allowance of the Prince of Wales, which, considering all he had to do for the representations of the Crown, was too small. If the alliance had been, as usual, with a Royal House, the grant would have been defensible, but he disapproved the Princess marrying "the son of one of Her Majesty's Ministers by the advice of Her Majesty's Ministry."

Mr. GLADSTONE, in a brief reply, mentioned that

Her Majesty had consulted her confidential advisers on the question of departing from the usual range of choice eighteen months ago, long before this particular arrangement was made.

The Committee then divided, and upwards of twenty minutes were spent in ascertaining the numbers, owing to the enormous influx of members into the lobby allotted to "the Ayes." After this lobby had been filled to its utmost limits, it was found necessary to open the doors of the House itself and allow the members to walk out into the hall. Mr. Glyn and Mr. Adam were, as usual, the tellers on the Government side. Corresponding functions, on the part of the opponents of the dowry, were fulfilled by Mr. P. A. Taylor and Sir C. Dilke. It was evident that the return which these gentlemen would have to make would be exceedingly small; but when Mr. Taylor returned to the House, conducting Professor Fawcett—his solitary supporter—to his seat, there was an irrepressible burst of merriment. The numbers on each side were declared as follows by Mr. Glyn:—

Ayes	..	..	..	..	..	350
No.	..	..	..	..	..	1
Majority						—349

Loud cheering and laughter followed the announcement.

The Princess Louise's Annuity Bill was read a second time.

The University Tests Bill was read a second time, Mr. HARDY delivering a brief but emphatic protest against it in its present shape.

The Attorney-General's bill for repealing section 6 of the Juries Act of last session was read a second time. Bills were brought in, by Mr. Muntz, for amending the laws relating to the adulteration of food, &c.; by Mr. Shaw-Lefevre, to make further provision for the due supply of water to the metropolis; and by Mr. Whitwell, to establish Tribunals of Commerce.

The House adjourned at twenty-five minutes to ten o'clock.

On Friday Mr. LEATHAM gave notice that in bringing forward the Army Estimates he would move a reduction of the army by 20,000.

Replying to a number of questions on foreign affairs, Lord ENFIELD stated that the Foreign Office, having received no official information as to the projected march of the Prussian army through Paris, had made no attempt to dissuade the Prussian authorities from it. Rumours of a treaty or understanding between Prussia and Russia had reached the Foreign Office, but they had not assumed any official shape; nor had the Government received any official information of pillaging by the Prussians since the armistice.

INDIA.

Mr. FAWCETT moved for a Select Committee on the General and Financial Administration of India. Mr. R. Fowler, Colonel Sykes, and Sir C. Wingfield supported the demand for an inquiry. Mr. GRANT DUFF pointed out that the Committee on Indian Finance contemplated by the Government would have as extensive a scope as one committee was capable of undertaking, and Mr. GLADSTONE undertook that this committee should be moved early next week. Under these circumstances Mr. FAWCETT withdrew his motion.

THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT AND THE WAR.

An important debate on the foreign policy of the Government during the war was raised by Mr. AUBERON HERBERT on the following motion:—

That this House is of opinion that it is the duty of Her Majesty's Government to act in concert with other neutral Powers to obtain moderate terms of peace, and to withhold all acquiescence in terms which might impair the independence of France or threaten the future tranquillity of Europe.

He protested against what he called the "moral neutrality" of the Government, and their fear not only of doing anything, but even of holding an opinion of their own. They acted, as a friend of his had said, the part of a "detrimental"—a detrimental being a man who paid great attention to a young lady, but had no serious intentions, and who thereby discouraged the attentions of others. It was our duty not to wait for a basis, but to find one. To wait for a basis was to wait *dum defuist amnis*, until the whole course of the war had flowed on. The appeal to Russia on the 16th of October to join in an effort to get moderate terms for France was quite inconsistent with the whole tenor of these colourless despatches. It was like a toad in a rock, and one wondered how it ever got there. He clung to the principle which Europe had already learned to sanction, that the inhabitants of any district ought not to be transferred against their will. It was in politics like the law of gravity in physics. It was one firm, abiding place, the one barrier against the violence of military ambition.

Sir ROBERT PEEL followed with a dashing and humorous onslaught on the Government, and especially its head. He protested against our policy of selfish isolation, with which Lord Lyons's ungenerous and unmanly flight from Paris was quite in keeping. We had accepted a policy of obliteration. In France, Switzerland, Germany, Belgium, he had, in a recent tour, heard only one expression from all classes of society—"La politique du Gouvernement Anglais fait honte" (Cheers.) He traced the influence of Mr. Gladstone in the meekness of the despatches. In every one of them the word "venture" occurred; we ventured to do this, or ventured to do that, and, of course, always failed. "We expressed in language so respectful that no objection could be taken to it, a hope that Prussia would not have recourse to the extreme measure of a bombardment of Paris." Again, "We ventured to point out that little good was likely to arise from the

multiplication of abstract declarations with reference to the terms of peace." In answer to Ministerial cheers, Sir Robert said: I don't dispute the fact, I am only showing now how "venturesome" the Government have been. I submit respectively to House that it is not the language which Lord Palmerston would have used. (Cheers.) Having on the 19th of August assured the French Government that "their good offices would be freely given and zealously exerted for the restoration of peace, if at any time recourse should be had to them," on the 7th of September Lord Lyons was directed to "inform M. J. Favre that Her Majesty's Government consider that they would be more likely to do harm than good to the cause of peace if they attempted to mediate." M. Thiers equally met with a rebuff, though he was extremely civil to Lord Granville, and spoke in the highest terms of his lordship's father as the *beau ideal* of a diplomatist, all which the Foreign Secretary set forth at length in his next despatch to France. Yet all that M. Thiers could get out of him was that our Government must "judge what was best for themselves." Sir Robert went on to argue that the unification of Germany, leading to the establishment of a great military despotism, could not be for the benefit of Europe, and cited numerous acts of "bitter Vandalism" committed by the Germans during the war.

In the discussion which followed, opinion was divided on each side of the House. Three members spoke from the Conservative benches. Lord ROYSTON justified the policy of the Government. Our position was a comfortable one, and it was best not to meddle with a quarrel we could never have stopped. He added that Sir R. Peel appeared to have looked into the blue-books with great assiduity. He (Lord Royston) had not done so, and, what was more, did not mean to do so. (Laughter.) In his opinion Prussia had never been an aggressive Power—"Oh!"—outside what she considered her own sphere. (A laugh.) Mr. CORRANCE also was not disposed to blame the Government, for they had not a sufficient force to support an intervention policy. Mr. BAILLIE COCHRANE exclaimed against the way in which we had left France to her fate.

On the Liberal side Mr. CARTWRIGHT and Mr. HORSMAN espoused the German cause, the latter declaring that in history Bismarck's name would be linked with Cavour's. Sir H. HOARE was still more fervent in his sympathy with France. Mr. TORRENS and Mr. BASS blamed the Government for undue timidity. Mr. MUNTZ was for non-intervention. Sir H. BULWER thought the motion inopportune. Of two things one was certain: either the Prussian Government meant to act with justice and moderation, in which case they were only by a sort of indirect menace placing an obstacle in the way of its doing so; or else it meant to act with injustice and exorbitance, in which case it was advisable that they should have facts before them, and not proceed in the dark upon a mere hypothesis. He thought for himself that if Germany would be satisfied with the possession of Alsace, and let France retain Metz, that would be a very fair arrangement.

Mr. GLADSTONE was somewhat brief in his reply. He thought "venture" a convenient word—moderate and deferential language on all occasions, whether among States or individuals, being in itself becoming, and being found on the whole to answer best. Lord Lyons's departure from Paris was directed by the Foreign Office. He pointed to the despatch of the 16th of October to Prince Gortchakoff, inviting an understanding on the terms of peace, as a proof that the Government were not wrapped in a policy of selfish isolation. On that occasion they showed a sincere and anxious intention to act prudently within certain limits, in the hope that an opportunity would be afforded for accomplishing a work of moderation, justice and peace. It was only the untoward manner in which it was met, and the yet more untoward circumstances by which at that early date it was followed—the repudiation of the Black Sea clause—which precluded Lord Granville from further developing the spirit and temper of that proposal. As to the present, no doubt an extorted peace, involving conditions which would be intolerable to the recovered strength of France, would be most unfortunate. The belligerents, however, did not desire that, by a premature attempt, we should take out of their hands what they appeared to think their own franchise—namely, that of comparing their views.

The anxiety of other Powers to enter into the consideration of our views to obtain an expression of them, if this were a matter of national vanity, is as much as we ought to desire; and we must be careful we do not strain the opportunity of that position. We cannot assume at all times that all neutral Powers shall be ready to enter into our views; and I would have my hon. friend bear in mind that when he speaks of the neutral Powers, the secret of their strength is not that a portion of them shall enter into a separate combination, broken, it may be, by the absence of some vital member of the European community, but that the whole shall be prepared to act together. Much must depend on the disposition of the neutral Powers; much must also depend on the disposition of the belligerents. But it is not for me to invent new phrases expressive of the anxiety of the Government on this subject, because already we have advised Her Majesty on two separate occasions in the highest and most authentic form—namely, in the Speech from the Throne—to express the sentiments she entertains, first of all with regard to the duties she has to perform during the course of this afflicting war, and secondly in regard to its termination. (Hear, hear.) I am not sure how far I am to understand my right hon. friend the member for Liskeard in his able speech as objecting to an expression which fell from me on a former night, when I said we should be watchful for opportunities of this kind. I am aware how easy it is to misjudge the precise force of terms that should be used in circumstances

so critical; but I do not think that I overstepped the mark. Watchful I think we ought to be and should continue to be—(cheers)—and it would be a great and noble distinction for this country if, without allowing her sense of humanity to betray her into proceeding beyond her right, she could inscribe on the roll of her great deeds having been able to make some contribution, should the need arise, towards the mitigation of conditions, necessarily heavy and severe, which must be imposed on the termination of the war on one of the noblest countries of Europe, so as to afford the hope, expressed in Her Majesty's Speech, that the peace about to be made should not contain within itself the seeds of future trouble and disorder, being so actuated by the principles of justice with reference to the circumstances of the case as to give the assurance that after so great convulsions Europe may enjoy a period of real and solid tranquillity. (Loud cheers.)

Mr. AUBERON HERBERT begged, with the permission of the House, to withdraw the motion, in consequence of the hearty manner in which his right hon. friend at the head of the Government had spoken on the subject, and also because he had told them that at the present moment, according to the best information in the hands of the Government, neither of the two parties had yet announced their desire for the intervention of this country. (Cheers.) The motion was then withdrawn.

THE ADMIRALTY.

Lord H. LENNOX next called attention to the condition in which the administration of naval affairs both in and out of Parliament is now placed. The arguments he used were much the same as those which had been urged in the other House. He contrasted the strength of the Admiralty under the late Government with its present helplessness, discord, and complete absence of personal responsibility, and asserted that for the last six months we had had no naval administration.

Mr. GLADSTONE characterised Lord Henry Lennox's proceedings as utterly unreasonable and unfair. The naval administration never was in a more efficient condition, and there certainly was no such urgency as to require the First Lord to be in his place on the eighth day of the session. Besides, Mr. Baxter had as yet not proved himself incapable of representing the Admiralty. Of course, Mr. Childers' absence was a misfortune, and it could not be prolonged beyond a few days; but it was not unprecedented, for Mr. Corry in one session had been absent from March 22 to May 8.

Mr. BENTINCK and Sir J. ELPHINSTONE dilated on the unsatisfactory condition of the navy.

Mr. BAXTER deprecated a premature discussion of the Naval Estimates, and still more the repetition of unfounded statements that the navy was inefficient. He considered himself responsible for the naval administration in Mr. Childers' absence, and should be ready to answer any questions.

The Princess Louise's Annuity Bill was passed through committee, and the Juries' Act (1870) Amendment Bill was passed through all its remaining stages.

The House adjourned at a quarter-past twelve o'clock.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS.

On Monday it was stated by Mr. GLADSTONE, in answer to Mr. Stapoole, that the subject of a Royal residence in Ireland was in the view of the Government, but he was not in a position to give any definitive answer at present. Mr. CARDWELL informed Sir John Pakington that he should not bring on the second reading of the Army Organisation Bill before Thursday week. Mr. GLADSTONE stated to Mr. Macfie that he was in absolute ignorance of any proposal for the purchase of Canada by the United States—adding a hint that amateur questions, founded on mere reports, while negotiations with a foreign State were going on, were not exactly judicious. Mr. FORSTER informed Dr. Lush that there was no intention to deal with the subject of Medical Acts in the present session. In reply to Mr. Eastwick, Mr. CARDWELL said that arrangements were in progress throughout the country for the drilling and training of the auxiliary forces.

The Princess Louise's Annuity Bill passed its third reading without remark.

UNIVERSITY TESTS BILL.

On the motion of going into committee on this bill, Mr. GLADSTONE, in reply to Mr. Vernon Harcourt, said that it was never intended by the Government to make the prerogative of granting a charter subject to the control of the House, or the prior consent of Parliament. That would be limiting the royal prerogative in a way in which it had never yet been limited. What was agreed to was that Parliament should have an opportunity of stating any objections prior to the granting of the charter, and he would take care that a provision was introduced with the view of carrying out the undertaking of last year. (Hear.)

Mr. NEWDEGATE said the House was now asked to proceed with a bill for disconnecting the Church of England from a theological body in the Universities. Another question was in agitation, namely, whether the Government would sanction by charter the establishment of a Roman Catholic University, and he hoped some explanation would be afforded on that subject. This bill was one step towards the disestablishment of the Church of England; that which stood next on the paper (the Ecclesiastical Titles Repeal Bill) was a long stride towards the establishment of the Church of Rome. (Laughter.)

The House then went into committee on the bill. Clauses 1 and 2 were agreed to without discussion. On Clause 3, providing that persons taking lay

academic degrees or holding lay academic or collegiate offices should not be required to subscribe any formula of faith, &c., Mr. STEVENSON moved to omit the exceptional words "other than a degree in divinity." The hon. member contended that these words were inconsistent with the avowed intention of the bill, and said the Church of England had plenty of barriers against aggression without such an exception. The professorial chairs must be filled by members of the Established Church, the emoluments being attached to livings connected with it. As to the objection that a man who held a degree of divinity might, without some such check as the bill imposed, use his position to undermine Christianity, he dismissed such an idea as altogether beyond the region of probability. But, apart from this consideration, he moved his amendment on the broad ground that University degrees ought not to be open only to the members of one particular Church, but should be free to all. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. GLADSTONE said the amendment did not go far enough to give effect to his hon. friend's intention. His hon. friend did not wish to remove the limitation upon the appointment of professors to the theological faculty, but in such a state of things candidates for degrees belonging to other forms of religion would be placed in an anomalous position, being liable to be judged exclusively by persons of another faith, and it would be difficult for them to feel confident of being treated with impartiality. He did not quite understand where his hon. friend intended to stop. He wished to have degrees in divinity thrown open. What was divinity? (Laughter.) He wished the professors of different Churches to be allowed to obtain a certificate of proficiency in a certain form. But what, again, were churches? For example, was there a Buddhist Church? and would not his hon. friend require a test if he wished to prevent Buddhists obtaining divinity degrees in English Universities? ("Hear, hear," and murmurs.) By Churches he probably meant the various fragments of the Christian world. If his hon. friend meant to admit all those who professed Christianity, in some form or other to degrees of divinity, and to exclude all who did not, he must discover and provide by law some test in order to define what was Christianity and what was not. He (Mr. Gladstone) would not enter into the merits of the proposal, his only object then being to point out defects of form. It would be wasting the time of the House for him to discuss the question. The Government had already ventured to acquaint the House—he used the term "venture" advisedly—(laughter)—that they regarded this proceeding as a sequel to that of last year. They proposed to send the bill up to the House of Lords as it was sent up last session, and consequently they could not accede to this amendment, and the same remark applied to the other amendments on the paper. The object of the Government was to bring the question raised by the bill to a speedy issue; and he was sorry to be obliged to say "No" to the amendment.

Dr. LYON PLAYFAIR supported the amendment. In the case of degrees in medicine and law, knowledge was not bound to belief, and he could not see why the opposite rule should prevail in divinity. In the University of Edinburgh candidates of all denominations were admitted to the degree in divinity.

Mr. B. HORN supported the hon. member for the admission that he wished to emancipate theology from belief—"Hear, hear," and counter cries of "No, no"—to establish, in fact, an "unbelieving theology." (Renewed cries of "Hear, hear," and "No, no.") That was the meaning of the hon. member's language. He should vote against the amendment.

Mr. BUXTON could not see why any hon. gentleman should wish to retain a few miserable fragments of the old system, based upon the idea that the Universities belonged to the Church and not to the people. The one test which his hon. friend sought to remove was a religious test, the object of which was to confine certain degrees to members of the Church of England. He (Mr. Buxton) could not agree with the hon. gentleman opposite (Mr. Beresford Hope) on this subject. He (Mr. Buxton) maintained there was a science of theology, and that it was one which the professors of theology in the Universities ought in future to be permitted to teach. There was a history of religion, a science of Biblical criticism, and many other cognate subjects which had no connection with any peculiar or specific religious views. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. B. SAMUELSON did not believe the bill was regarded by people out of doors as the proper sequel to the events of last session. The proper sequel would have been a bill for abolishing all religious tests in reference to degrees and privileges in the Universities. (Hear, hear.) He thought it would be better that the bill should not pass than that it should be affirmed in its present shape. (Hear, hear.) He should support the amendment.

Mr. HORSMAN complained that Mr. Hope had misrepresented the views of Dr. Playfair. What his hon. friend said was, that he wished theology to be emancipated from the belief imposed by law—in other words, from Church of England belief. (Hear, hear.) Was that unreasonable or wrong? It was the immorality of those tests to which the great objection lay. They were immoral because they diminished reverence for the sanctity of an oath; they were in-

jurious to religion; and while opening the door wide to the infidel, they shut it in the face of the honest believer. He had always objected to tests on the ground that they were immoral, and as for promoting uniformity of belief, they did nothing of the kind. Was it not well known that every diversity of belief and unbelief was to be found in those governing bodies that had taken all those tests, and in the Church of England itself? Hon. gentlemen talked of unity of belief as the great object. Did they attain it? Were not the diversities of belief in the Church of England a daily scandal, its weakness, and its shame? (Hear, hear.) How many tests had been taken from the day of his ordination to that of his consecration by Bishop Colenso? Had not the High Church and the Low Church parties censured the Prime Minister for having appointed to a bishopric a person who had contributed to the "Essays and Reviews"? From the first day that he entered the House he had always been an enemy of tests. He had opposed them on every occasion, and he should therefore feel bound to support the amendment.

Mr. BERESFORD HOPE trusted that when the right hon. gentleman again read him a lecture he would inform himself of the point at issue and of the general course of the debate. No one was talking of tests. The question under discussion was divinity degrees, for which no one could be a candidate who was not in orders in the Church of England. All who had addressed the Committee before the right hon. gentleman, had spoken to the point, though on different sides.

The Committee divided. The numbers were—
Ayes 185
Noes 140

Majority against the amendment 45

The announcement of the numbers was received with loud cheers by the supporters of the amendment.

Mr. FAWCETT then moved to omit proviso 1 in Clause 3, and to insert the following clause:—

After the passing of this Act no one, as a condition of being elected to or of continuing to hold any headship, professorship, fellowship, studentship, or scholarship in any college, house or hall, in the Universities of Oxford, Cambridge, and Durham, shall be required to take holy orders.

The object of the amendment was, he said, to make the bill complete, logical, satisfactory, and final. (Hear, hear.) He wished to abolish clerical as well as lay tests, or, in other words, those restrictions that had been left in the bill in favour of clerical fellowships and headships, the retention of which, he conceived, would be a great injustice to senior students and senior wranglers, who, at the last moment, because they did not belong to the Church of England, would be deprived of a much-coveted prize. Unless the amendment were adopted, one-third of the fellowships and three-fourths of the headships of colleges in Oxford could not be held except by persons who were in holy orders. The settlement of this question could not be obtained until not only the abolition of lay fellowships but of clerical fellowships had been accomplished; nor until clerical fellowships had been done away with could the Universities be regarded as really national institutions.

Mr. O. MORGAN supported the amendment, and argued that many of the existing conditions attached to the holding of fellowships were foolish and antiquated. Nothing could be more absurd than that a fellowship could only be held by a celibate; and what was the reasonableness of the rule that a man who had 300*l.* a year from lands must give up a fellowship, while a man who made 5,000*l.* a year at the law, or 50,000*l.* a year in commerce, could continue to hold one?

Sir F. GOLDSMID, though approving of the amendment, could not support it. The fact that the Prime Minister had taken up the conduct of the measure proved that the Government were anxious to carry it through, and he thought it was scarcely fair to propose an amendment which, if carried, would be the knell of the bill.

Lord E. FITZMAURICE said that, unless this amendment were carried, the bill would not remove all the religious inequalities which existed in the Universities. He thought that, if this amendment were sent to the Lords, it would give them a bridge by which they could retreat. If the amendment were so nauseous to them, they could throw it out and pass the body of the bill. The abolition of clerical fellowships would be a great gain to the Universities. There were two kinds of clerical fellows—those who wore white ties and those who did not. The first were the opponents of all reform in the Universities, and the second merely entered into holy orders in order to get the fellowships, and as soon as they accomplished that object they threw aside all the outward signs of the inward and spiritual grace. ("Hear, hear," and laughter.) The extinction of both these classes would be a great advantage to the Universities.

The SOLICITOR-GENERAL said it was impossible for the Government to accept the amendment. No external action had been taken by academic reformers in this direction, and the Government had certainly informed a large deputation of Nonconformists who had waited on them some time ago, that they could not accede to this amendment. He denied that the alteration was necessary to the completion or consistency of the bill. The measure simply proposed to repeal all Parliamentary enactments imposing restrictions on the University and colleges; but it did not propose to interfere with the restrictions contained in college statutes, and it would be introducing something foreign to the bill if they meddled with those statutes. He admitted that the whole question of the tenure of fellow-

ships was in an unsatisfactory condition; but they had at present no sufficient information to deal with it. Speaking for himself, he should rejoice if a proper inquiry were made into the state of the colleges and the extent of their resources.

Mr. SERJEANT SIMON said he should support the amendment because it came within the scope of the bill, and because it proposed to establish religious equality, and to remove certain disabilities which were a hindrance and real grievance to a considerable number of Her Majesty's subjects. Unless the amendment were adopted the bill would be inconsistent. He wished to give credit to the Government for a desire to do justice to the great body of Nonconformists; but he could not understand why more respect had been shown to the House of Lords, who had rejected the bill, than to the great bulk of the Liberal party, who had voted for it. (Hear, hear.) Nor could he understand how respect was really shown for the House of Lords by sending them back the bill in the same form in which it had been before them on the last occasion.

Mr. GLADSTONE said he did not mean to enter into the general terms of the argument employed by his hon. and learned friend, the Solicitor-General, to which he subscribed. He agreed with him that the whole subject of fellowships required to be closely examined, but it formed a large and separate matter. His hon. and learned friend asked how they meant to show respect to the House of Lords by sending back a bill which they had rejected. The House of Lords thought fit not to pass the bill, but they thought fit not to reject it. It might be said that the Lords adopted an indirect method of getting rid of it. (Hear, hear.) Hon. members might be free to urge that view, but the Government were not free to urge it. It was the 14th of July when the bill was sent, for the first time, upon the responsibility of the Government, to the House of Lords, and it would be a harsh and uncharitable judgment to say that they rejected the measure because they asked for information which the Government considered was unnecessary. Those who were interested in this measure, after learning the decision of the Government, still persisted in the request that they should undertake the conduct of the measure, and urge it forward as they best could. It was under these circumstances that he asked the committee to vote against the amendment.

Mr. HORSMAN said the course which the supporters of the amendment proposed to take was consistent with that which they pursued last session, and was not influenced by the action of the House of Lords. The course which the Government were taking was also consistent.

The Committee divided—

For the amendment 160
Against 182
Majority 22

The result of the division was received with loud cheers below the gangway.

Mr. FAWCETT said he did not mean to proceed with the other clauses, but he hoped the Government would ponder well the remarkable division which had taken place. The constituencies would also look at it. There never was a division, perhaps, in which a Liberal Government had found so few Liberal supporters—a division in which it had been opposed by its strongest and best supporters.

Mr. GLADSTONE said his hon. friend had hoped that the Government would ponder the question. They had pondered it, and their decision was irrevocable, and he might take whatever course he pleased. (Cheers.)

Mr. FAWCETT, on account of the decision come to by the House, since it was so different from that of last year on the same question, moved that progress be reported, but almost immediately withdrew his motion.

Mr. C. BENTINCK moved to add a proviso to the clause, saving the rights of members of the Church of England to offices specially intended for them by the founders and donors; but it was opposed by Mr. GLADSTONE, and, after a brief conversation, it was not pressed.

The remaining clauses in the schedule were also agreed to, and the chairman was ordered to report the bill to the House.

The third reading will be taken to-morrow.

THE BALLOT.

Mr. W. E. FORSTER, in bringing in the Ballot Bill, explained that it had been transferred to him from the Marquis of Hartington solely because he had less legislative work on his hands than the Marquis in his new position of Irish Secretary. Taking it for granted that the main features of the scheme of last year were fresh in the minds of the House, Mr. Forster went on to explain the changes he intended to propose in it; and, first, municipal elections, as well as Parliamentary, are to be included in the bill. In the machinery for voting two principal conditions would be kept in view—simplicity and complete secrecy—and by secrecy Mr. Forster meant that the voter should not be able to prove to any one how he had voted, because that would defeat the objects of the Ballot. To obtain this the bill provides that none but official voting papers shall be used, that they shall not be given to the voter until he enters the polling-booth, and that the voter shall not put any mark on the paper except what is necessary to show how he has voted. In like manner three dangers more or less peculiar to the Ballot are guarded against in the bill—tampering with the voting papers, forging them, and impersonation. Taking the last first, Mr. Forster, after arguing that a scrutiny is useless for the deten-

tion of personation and bribed votes, stated that the machinery of counterfoils, &c., contained in last year's bill, had been abandoned, and that no provision for a scrutiny would be made in this bill. But there will be a clause putting attempts to procure personation on the same footing as attempts at treating; and also, wherever it is proved that a candidate or his agent has attempted to bribe or to procure personation, in every case a vote shall be struck off that candidate's poll. The possibility of tampering with the ballot papers is met by minute precautions for locking the papers up and guarding them, and to prevent forgery, the returning officer when he delivers the ballot paper is to stamp it with a secret stamp. The penalties of treating (not of bribery as in last year's bill) are imposed on a candidate who does not include all his expenses in the return, and who pays personally that which ought to be paid by an agent. Among other minor changes, Mr. Forster mentioned that public-houses must no longer be used for committee rooms. Nominations days and declarations of polls are abolished; but all these details are to be open to the fullest consideration and amendment in committee. Finally, he announced that the legal expenses of candidates are thrown on the local rates, expatiating at length on the objections in principle to the present system, and on the practical hardships it inflicts on poor candidates, and he concluded by an urgent appeal to the Conservatives to lay aside party feeling in dealing with a measure which, while it destroyed improper influence, would give strength to the legitimate influence of property, station, and blameless discharge of public duties.

Mr. LEATHAM congratulated the Government on its remarkable advance, and thought the bill a good one.

Mr. G. BENTINCK indulged in some caustic observations on the total want of principle displayed by both sides in dealing with reform and electoral questions. He denied that the Ballot was popular, or that it would secure secret voting, and characterised the bill as one for preventing the detection of bribery.

Sir D. CORRIGAN, in an effective maiden speech, argued in favour of secret voting, and expressed unqualified approval of the abolition of nomination days.

Mr. BEERSFORD HOPE regretted that the Ballot had been mixed up with other unobjectionable provisions for improving elections with which it had nothing to do, and was utterly incredulous as to the possibility of insuring secret voting.

Sir H. HOARE and Mr. H. JAMES thanked Mr. Forster for the bill. Mr. SCOURFIELD made some observations in a contrary sense, and read a passage from a speech delivered by the late Lord-Advocate, Sir W. Moncreiff, in 1853, which, he said, had produced a great effect at the time it was delivered in the House. Its purport was that "you never could turn a knave into an honest man by turning an honest man into a knave."

Mr. W. E. FORSTER, in reply, said if the committee should decide that cards were preferable to voting papers he should have no objection to give effect to their decision. The bill contained sufficient safeguards against the "Tasmanian dodge," and likewise provided against forged voting papers and tampering with the votes. The opportunities of personation would be less frequent than at present. As regards public-houses, he thought he had already stated that electioneering meetings would not in future be allowed to be held in them, unless the candidate was present. There was great cogency in the argument about paid canvassers, but at the same time there was great difficulty in framing an enactment against them. With respect to personation, he might remark that the bill made no attempt to keep secret the fact of a man having voted; but its object was to prevent any one from being able to prove how he had voted.

Leave was given to bring in the bill. It was brought in and read a first time, and the second reading was fixed for Monday next.

The House adjourned at twenty minutes past ten o'clock.

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

RIPON.—Sir Henry Stokes was on Wednesday returned for Ripon by a majority of 220 (552 to 302) over Mr. Cayley, the defeat of the latter having been even more decisive than at the general election. After the contest there was a good deal of rioting. The Liberals were pelted with stones, sticks, snow-balls, and other missiles. At one time, it is stated, the shower of stones was so thick that the Liberals were obliged to run off. On their return the riot was resumed, and the crowd below the hustings on the Liberal side began to retaliate. One stone struck Sir H. Stokes on the shoulder. He caught it, held it up before the multitude, and then put it in his pocket. Some of the stones were of the size of a man's fist, and others had sharp jagged edges. A small body of the Leeds police were present, and would have captured the ringleader in the riot, but the authorities thought it prudent that no arrests should be made.

STALEYBRIDGE.—The death of Mr. Sidebottom (Conservative) has created a vacancy for Staleybridge. Mr. Robert Platt, of Dunham Park, Cheshire, is mentioned as the probable candidate in the Liberal interest. He is rather an advanced reformer, and holds the office of treasurer to the National Reform Union. He has also a good deal of local interest and popularity, so that should he consent to stand,

there is much probability that he would be successful. The Conservatives have selected Mr. Francis G. Powell, who formerly sat for Cambridge and previously for Wigan.

GALWAY COUNTY.—Mr. Mitchell Henry (Liberal) was returned for Galway county yesterday, Mr. Nolan, the nationalist, not being nominated.

NORWICH.—At the nomination of candidates for Norwich on Monday, Mr. Colman and Sir Charles Legard were proposed; the former on behalf of the Liberals, and the latter on the part of the Conservatives. The proceedings were characterised by the scenes of disorder usual on such occasions. The show of hands was in favour of Mr. Colman, and a poll was demanded for Sir C. Legard. The racing debts of the Conservative candidate have formed the subject of much comment in the city, and have led to an interesting interview between Sir Charles and the Liberal leaders. The poll took place yesterday, when Mr. Colman was triumphantly returned, the numbers being—

Colman	..	..	..	4,660
Legard	..	..	..	3,398

Majority 1,262

It may be remarked that Sir Charles, to a great extent, based his candidature on the church question. In his address he said, "I shall resist to the utmost Mr. Miall's proposition to disestablish the Church of England."

WEST ABERDEEN.—A vacancy in the representation of West Aberdeenshire is said to be anticipated by the resignation of Mr. W. M'Combie. Colonel Farquharson, of Invercauld, has issued an address to the constituency.

SOUTH WARWICK.—It is stated that Mr. H. C. Wise, M.P. for South Warwickshire, is unable to discharge his Parliamentary duties through failing health. His retirement at an early period is considered probable.

Postscript.

Wednesday, February 22, 1871.

YESTERDAY'S PARLIAMENT.

In the House of Lords last night, two or three bills, including that which provides for the dowry of the Princess Louise, were advanced a stage, and on the provocation of Lord MALMESBURY, the FOREIGN SECRETARY explained the circumstances under which Lord Lyons left Paris.

In the Commons, despite an appeal from the leader of the Opposition, Mr. FORSTER adhered to his intention to move the second reading of the Ballot Bill on Monday next.

The principal business of the evening was the discussion of Mr. TREVELYAN's resolutions upon army administration. The object of these resolutions was to assert the power of the Secretary of State for War against that of the Commander-in-Chief, in order to enable him to avail himself freely of the best administrative talent and the most recent military experience; and to declare that, as an equivalent for the cost to be incurred by the abolition of the purchase system, it is necessary to abolish all obsolete and antiquated sources of military expenditure. In proposing these resolutions, the hon. gentleman sharply attacked the Horse Guards for its obstructive policy in all military affairs, and expressing more than a doubt whether it would be possible to carry out any new system by the instrumentality of a department so devoted to routine or precedent and so devoid of originality, contrasted most disadvantageously the present administration of the army with that of the navy inaugurated by the present First Lord of the Admiralty. The resolutions were seconded by Mr. ANDERSON, and then Captain VIVIAN replied on the part of the Government. After a lengthened discussion, Mr. CARDWELL, strictly confining himself to the terms of the motion, maintained that the office of Commander-in-Chief was a proper and necessary exception from the five years' rule which generally applied to staff appointments. He assured the House that the illustrious Duke now at the head of the army, whatever opinions he might previously have expressed, fully concurred with the Government in their proposal for the abolition of purchase in the army, and fully admitted that all "obsolete and antiquated" sources of expenditure ought to be abandoned. When the division was taken the motion was rejected by a majority of 118—201 to 83.

Mr. TAYLOR got leave to bring in a bill to abolish the Game Laws, and Mr. RYLANDS, to regulate the Sale of Liquors on Sunday.

There was some discussion upon the motion of Mr. W. JOHNSTON, for the production of a copy of the letter addressed by Mr. Gladstone to Mr. Deane on the subject of the preservation of the spiritual authority of the Pope; and the PRIME MINISTER entered into some explanation of the meaning which he intended to convey in that document; but in the end, the House, by a majority of 63—153 to 90—declined to make of this private communication a Parliamentary paper. Some other business was disposed of, and the House adjourned at twelve o'clock.

GERMANY AND FRANCE.

A telegram from Versailles dated yesterday evening says:—"In consequence of the representations of the French Deputies, the German authorities have reduced the contribution of the Department

of the Oise to 2,000,000 francs. No day is fixed for the entry of the troops into Paris, nor is any programme yet known at the head-quarters of the Prince Imperial. Peace is considered to be nearly certain."

General Trochu has published a letter in the *Liberté* of Paris, in which, referring to the entry of the Germans into the city, he says:—"As a speechless and solemn protest, the gates should be shut; let him open them with cannon. Disarmed, Paris will not reply, but will leave to the truth and justice of history the task of judging." The police fear that the publication of this letter will excite difficulties. Three thousand bombs have been seized by the authorities.

Letters from Paris announce that steps are being taken to dissolve and thoroughly remodel the National Guard. This process is to be completed before the entry of the German troops into the French capital. On Monday night there were 4,000 people sleeping outside Mr. Moore's establishment in the Place des Petits Pères, waiting for the distribution of the Lord Mayor's food supplies. 12,600 tons of food and fuel reached Paris on that day.

The Deputies of the National Assembly will, it is said, shortly take into consideration the question of the eventual and definitive transfer of the seat of Government to some point outside of Paris.

Count Bismark, being desirous of ascertaining the views of South German statesmen upon the subject of the terms of peace, has invited them to be present at Versailles during the negotiations.

Some time ago a report appeared in the English papers that a Franco-tireur had been burnt alive by the Germans in France. A telegram from the Imperial Head-quarters at Versailles officially declares that the report is "utterly devoid of foundation."

Maria Victoria, Queen of Spain, lies dangerously ill with military fever at Alhambra. She has asked to receive the last sacraments. The excessively nervous temperament of Her Majesty renders the case hopeless.

A New York telegram states that Mr. Sumner is seriously ill with neuralgia in the heart.

THE DISSENTING DEPUTIES.—The annual meeting of the Dissenting Deputies was held yesterday at the City Terminus Hotel. Resolutions were passed, accepting the early introduction of the University Tests Bill as affording a reasonable hope of its passing this session, approving the Burials Bill as introduced by Mr. Osborne Morgan, M.P., and declaring that the time had arrived for pressing forward Mr. Miall's proposition to disendow the Church of England.

MARK-LANE.—THIS DAY.

An increased amount of depression characterised the grain-trade at Mark-lane to-day. The business doing was small, and prices tended towards further reduction, although the cooler weather had a slight influence of checking the strong downward movement. There was a moderate supply of English wheat on sale, generally in improved condition. Sales were effected slowly, at Monday's decline. Foreign wheat, of which the supply was moderate, changed hands slowly, at the reduced rates previously current. Barley was dull, at declining currencies. Malt was quiet, on former terms. Good oats being scarce, extreme prices were realised, but other qualities were difficult of disposal, at previous values. Beans and peas were steady, at about late rates. Flour was inactive, and country marks were again easier to purchase.

MR. SALA'S ACTION FOR LIBEL.—In the Court of Queen's Bench on Friday, Mr. George Augustus Sala brought an action for libel against Messrs. Hodder and Stoughton, publishers, of Paternoster-row. The libellous matter referred to was embodied in a work written by Mr. Hain Friswell, entitled, "Modern Men of Letters Honestly Criticised," and of which the defendants were the publishers. The passages complained of abounded with insinuations of an offensive character against Mr. Sala, and amongst them it was stated that he was unattractive, often drunk, always in debt, sometimes in prison, and totally disreputable. An apology had been offered, and an assurance given that no second edition of the work should appear—the publishers especially offering every reparation for an injury unwittingly inflicted by their agency. With this, however, Mr. Sala declined to be satisfied, and the jury returned a verdict in his favour, damages 500*l*.

MARRIAGE WITH A DECEASED WIFE'S SISTER.—One more measure recently adopted deserves mention here—a bill to legalise a marriage with the sister or the daughter of the sister of a deceased wife. The former part of this enactment presents the singular anomaly of having been twice passed in the present session. The bill legalising a marriage with a deceased wife's sister, which was passed and sent home last June, having been disallowed, our Parliament have, by a suspension of their standing orders, and by modifying the object of the bill, repassed it with smaller opposition than it ever had before, and it now awaits transmission to England for Her Majesty's pleasure. This is the sixth measure with this object that South Australia has passed, and as Downing-street may rest assured that we shall persevere until we succeed, it is scarcely worth while to persist in the course hitherto pursued—the more so that such marriages are not illegal in Victoria and New South Wales, and are certain ere long to be legalised by the Imperial Parliament itself.—*South Australian Advertiser*, Jan. 3.

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TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"B. B."—Our space is preoccupied this week.

"One who has," &c.—We think that the increase of the vote under the head, "Divine Service" for the army, is most likely, or to a great extent, for ministers outside the Church of England.

The Nonconformist.

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1871.

SUMMARY.

THOUGH peace between Germany and France is not yet concluded, important events have occurred during the past week bearing on that desirable issue, and the future condition of our neighbours across the Channel. M. Thiers, the elect of nineteen departments, has been chosen almost unanimously to be chief of the Executive Government by the National Assembly at Bordeaux. The country evidently approves the choice. The veteran statesman has associated with himself in the Government such men of eminence as MM. Dufaure, Favre, Buffet, and Picard—politicians who with patriotic devotion are ready to sacrifice their personal reputations in order to bring peace to their country. Every European Power has promptly recognised the new Government, England taking the lead, and M. Thiers has announced that his sole programme is to put an end to the evils afflicting the country, and to the occupation of the enemy. "I cannot imagine," he says, "that any one can occupy himself with the Constitutional question, while France is debating in the grasp of the enemy. Such is our policy. Every man of sense, be he a Monarchist or a Republican, can work usefully for the interest of the country, so that it should say to us under what form of Government it desires to exist, and then with the full knowledge of its wants we can decide your destiny, and that not only by a majority but by the national will." The Orleanist Princes, feeling that their time is not yet come, have left Bordeaux without claiming their seats; and the Assembly has suspended its sittings.

All eyes are now fixed upon Versailles, whither MM. Thiers and Favre have gone to discuss the terms of peace, or receive them in the shape of an ultimatum from the hands of Count Bismark; and fifteen commissioners appointed by the National Assembly are now at Paris to assist them in the negotiations. To-morrow, if all goes well, the treaty of peace will be laid before the deputies at Bordeaux. The disposition of the Assembly was tested on Friday last, when the declaration of the members for Alsace and Lorraine, repudiating annexation to Germany, was simply referred to the French negotiators. The armistice prolonged to Friday next will probably be further extended. Apparently the negotiations at Versailles will be to a great extent a formality. M. Favre has for some days been in possession of the German terms, and they have been discussed at Bordeaux by the Cabinet of M. Thiers. There can be no doubt they are as favourable as the new French Government could expect. The territorial cession will, it is expected, include Metz—but not Nancy or Luneville—and the line of the Vosges to Belfort, which fortress surrendered last week on favourable terms to the German besiegers. It is reported—though there are a dozen varying rumours afloat as to the German terms—that Count Bismark will demand no ship of war, but will ask a war in-

demnity of some 120,000,000 sterling. Whether or not the German forces march through Paris is probably dependent on the temper of the National Assembly, and the health of the Emperor of Germany, which is said to be fast breaking up.

The House of Commons is earning a reputation for the despatch of public business. During the week Mr. Cardwell has introduced and explained the provisions of his army reorganisation scheme, which will be discussed to-morrow week; Mr. Forster has brought in the Bill for reforming our electoral machinery—the Ballot being its prominent feature; the University Tests Bill has got through Committee; and the measure providing an annuity and dowry for the Princess Louise has already reached the Upper House. On Thursday last Mr. P. A. Taylor's amendment disapproving the dotation was discussed, Sir Robert Peel contributing a critical speech on the expenditure of the Civil List, and on a division being called, Professor Fawcett alone mustered resolution to record his vote against the grant. Though Parliamentary business is at present in a forward state, several serious party conflicts, which will consume much time, are evidently impending. Mr. Disraeli will himself attack the Government for their alleged surrender to Russian arrogance on the Black Sea question, and a storm is brewing in connection with the administration of the Admiralty, which will probably end in the resignation of Mr. Childers.

Two gentlemen, who will no doubt be of service to the Liberal party, have been returned to the House of Commons during the past week. Sir Henry Storks, elected for Ripon, will be able to support Mr. Cardwell in his scheme for the reorganisation of the army, in the maturing of which Sir Henry has probably borne a large share. He is a sound Liberal, and his services on the celebrated Jamaica Commission will not be forgotten. Norwich has vindicated its reputation for Liberalism by the triumphant return of Mr. J. J. Colman as the successor of Mr. Tillett. So long as Sir S. Bignold lives, we imagine, no Liberal will be allowed to walk over the course for that city. His protégé on this occasion was a sporting baronet, who seems hardly to have learned his political catechism, and was rejected by the decisive majority of 1,200 votes. Encouraged by recent successes in Ireland, the "Nationalists" threatened to carry all before them in Galway county, but their candidate did not appear at the nomination, and Mr. Mitchell Henry was returned unopposed.

One or two foreign incidents of the week call for a word of notice. It is remarkable that the news of the capitulation of Paris was received with general lamentation in Russia, so strong is the anti-German feeling in that empire. Italy is making great warlike preparations, as though she feared being called upon to make good her claim to Rome upon the field of battle; and the Pope is seriously thinking of migrating to Belgium. While the American press is with unusual unanimity deprecating ovations to the Fenian exiles, and urging the necessity of cordial relations with this country, the Parliament of the Dominion of Canada, now in session, shows signs of opposition to any concessions on the Fisheries question, which will soon be submitted to the Joint Commission at Washington. England is so entirely absorbed in the war on the Continent, or so indifferent to colonial affairs, that the admission of British Columbia to the North American Confederation, thus preparing for a great State which will extend from the Atlantic to the Pacific, is hardly noticed by our press at home.

THE GOVERNMENT SCHEME OF ARMY REFORM.

At length the country has before it a scheme of Army Reform. It bears traces of two powerful and plastic forces—public opinion on the one hand, and military self-assertion on the other. It is a compromise, but we are not prepared to say it is an unwise one. It seems to have been born of panic after due time, but it has two or three prominent features which may be distinctly traced to the parentage of the national will. How far it is likely to be modified by Parliament there are no data as yet upon which even a plausible conjecture may be founded. We must criticise it, therefore, as it stands.

We have said that the scheme is an after-birth of panic, and we agree with Lord Derby that a large sum of money might be economically expended if by that means we could put a final period to the ridiculous and disgraceful crises which go by that name. We are not, however, by any means sure that the very best and most perfectly adequate military machinery which the country is likely to command, will bring about that most desirable result. Our invasion panics are neither national nor popular.

They do not extend over any very large portion of the surface of society, nor do they go far down into its depths. Comparatively few persons in this country are really troubled by apprehension of a foreign invasion; fewer still allow such apprehensions as they may feel to affect, in the smallest degree, their daily arrangements. So far as we can remember, not a single free and open election in England or Scotland has turned upon the supposed necessity of increasing our armaments of defence. Of the so-called panic which arose out of the Franco-German war evidence of its spontaneity and universality appears to us to be totally wanting. No doubt, a certain section of military officers, contrasting the immense numbers of men pressed into the armies of the great monarchies of the continent, and the comparatively pigmy proportions of that maintained by the United Kingdom, availed themselves of the unequal contest between Germany and France to give widespread publicity to their opinions that, army for army, this country would be utterly unable to cope with either of the belligerent Powers. This is usually the commencement of what is called a panic. It is followed up by letters to the daily press, generally printed in largest type, from Armourers, Army Agents, and a large class of men which draw their gains from Army expenditure; denouncing the niggardly habits of the Government, and calling for a more lavish expenditure of public money. The ball thus set rolling, is kept on foot by all those artificial methods of agitation which what may be called the ruling class know so well how to carry on with effect. For a month or two, the newspaper press is filled with correspondence, and editorial comments upon the imminent peril to which the country is exposed. Thousands of *claqueurs* who invariably repeat, and sometimes exaggerate, the opinions of their favourite journals, discuss the topic, as they go to and from their ordinary business, with a warmth that would seem to imply the deepest interest in the immediate practical disposal of it. There is abundance of smoke, but not much fire—a great deal of noise, but no great national emotion represented by it. It is the strained product of the combined efforts of a few classes, chiefly, we must add, interested classes, and, such as it is, it is styled a panic.

The one fault which we have to find with Mr. Gladstone's Ministry is that it has not resolutely set its face against this kind of military excitement. The permanent addition of 20,000 men to the Regular Army made in haste at the conclusion of last Session, and the provision in the Estimates of this year for 135,000 Regulars, of whom 108,000 are to be retained in the country, strike us as a weak concession to militarism which reflects no credit upon the good sense of the Cabinet. Looking at the utter exhaustion of France, and at the geographical position of Germany, we can discover no sound reason for keeping up to each an advanced limit the purely defensive army of the kingdom. Certainly, we are in no greater danger of invasion now than we were before the declaration of war by the Emperor Napoleon III. What the additional 20,000 men, such of whom costs the country £100 a year, are expected to add to the substantial security of this land from invasion, we have not yet been told. It may be taken for granted that this part of the Government scheme will be severely handled in Committee of Supply, and although it will probably remain unaltered, it will assuredly weaken the confidence which the general public has hitherto reposed in the strength and wisdom of the Gladstone Administration.

Happily, the reforms proposed in the organisation and administration of our defensive forces, are bold, broad, and apparently substantial. They are made to hinge upon two great principles which the country will gratefully accept. The first in the retention of voluntary enlistment as the main basis, in time of peace, of the armed strength of the nation. And the second is the abolition of the purchase system. These two principles involve extensive changes in the administration of Army affairs, and very largely prepare the way for them. The Militia, for instance, is henceforth to constitute the pivot upon which military efficiency will turn. And as it will be no longer officered by the Lords-Lieutenants of Counties, but by the Crown, serious obstacles to the united action of the two descriptions of forces, so as to constitute them one machine, will be easily removed out of the way. The changes proposed do not perhaps go far enough to give complete unity of organisation to the military resources at our command, but, at least, they serve for the introduction of a sound system which, as time goes on, may be expected to assimilate to itself all the elements requisite for an efficient army. The minor details of the plan we are not qualified to discuss. They, however, will be susceptible of compara-

tively easy modification, and will pass through keen professional examination before the measure comes out of Committee.

The present scheme, like all compromises, while it leaves much to be desired, offers elements of attraction which will probably secure its temporary success. But it does not do away with the dual Government of the Army, and it will leave His Royal Highness the Commander-in-Chief at the head of the Horse Guards, to co-operate with, or to obstruct, the War Minister in bringing his Army reform into operation, as His Royal Highness's disposition may incline. For the present, he professes not merely general concurrence, but that deep interest in the success of the Ministerial plan which arises out of settled convictions of its necessity long since entertained. We shall see. The opinion of the House of Commons will, no doubt, be tested on the subject, not with any view of casting personal reproach upon the present Commander-in-Chief, but of ascertaining whether the executive head of the Army in this country shall, or shall not, be held subordinate to a paramount authority responsible to Parliament. To the affirmative side of the alternative public opinion is rapidly inclining. There can be but one ultimate decision. The Legislature will, in the end, assert its control over all the institutions of the country. Whether it will do so immediately and directly, can hardly be regarded as a question of vital importance. Perhaps, the Ministers of the Crown have done prudently in not stirring the question just now. Others, however, will stir it, and the day will come when the growing demand of the people to have the control over the armaments which they provide for their defence, will have to be met and satisfied.

REFORM OF OUR ELECTORAL MACHINERY.

THE scene in the House of Commons on Monday night must have sorely depressed many a veteran Tory, who somehow identifies the British Constitution with a general flow of beer at an election, and horseplay at the hustings. Mr. Forster has aimed a mortal blow at the British rough, to whom a general election is a wild carnival. The sun of England must indeed set in right earnest when all the good old glories of electioneering are extinguished—when the British voter will no longer be able to spend two or three days in loafing about public-houses and slaking his thirst at somebody's expense, ere he can discern his political duty; when there will be no longer any fun at the hustings—that fun consisting in keeping up a perpetual din, treating the candidates for legislative honours to showers of stones or filthy missiles, and in “free fights,” with a list of killed and wounded. Farewell those election agents, who knowing the leanings and weaknesses of every voter in humble life, rub their hands with glee at the prospect of a dissolution—farewell the ruffians who are gathered from neighbouring districts, bludgeon in hand, as a bodyguard around some Protestant squire at the county hustings, and as a terror to intruding Radicals! We condole with those plutocrats, who can only find an avenue to our legislative assembly through the pothouse and the pockets of frail electors, and with publicans in every town whose taps have been wont to flow freely when the welcome writ has appeared. All that was picturesque about an electioneering contest is doomed, if Mr. Forster's Bill should pass. The “Man in the moon” will become a myth, bands of music, the blandishments of candidates, and shouting mobs must ere long be an anachronism, and an appeal to the country will be as dull and prosaic an affair as a London School Board election.

Such are a few of the revolutionary changes threatened by the Bill introduced by Mr. W. E. Forster on Monday night on behalf of the Government. In its completeness and thoroughness it is worthy of a genuine Liberal Administration. It provides for secret voting in municipal as well as Parliamentary elections, abolishes the public nomination and declaration of the poll, prohibits the use of public-houses as committee rooms, charges the legal cost of elections upon the local rates, and voids the seat of any candidate who refrains from including all his expenses in his election return. The scheme for carrying out the Ballot is the most important, as it is the most vulnerable part of the scheme. It enacts that voting papers only shall be used, which, stamped on the spot, will be placed in the hands of electors as they enter the poll, and deposited in the ballot-box without a name attached. The vote will therefore be inviolate. The danger of trickery and personation is the risk incurred for the sake of the great advantages of absolute secret

voting. Mechanical safeguards will, no doubt, reduce that danger to a *minimum*, and Mr. Forster invites the House of Commons to co-operate in devising the most effective machinery for that purpose. The task will be a difficult one, and probably the actual experience of a general election can alone suggest the most effectual checks upon the unscrupulous zeal of candidates, the perverted ingenuity of agents, and the cunning of corrupt voters.

Upon these necessarily weak points of the Government plan the tactics of the opponents of our electoral machinery will be concentrated. Tory ingenuity, eloquence, and ridicule will do their best to upset a great reform upon questions of detail and false sentiment. We trust, however, that the Liberal party will resolutely stand by the scheme in its substantial provisions. It promises to introduce a beneficial moral change throughout the land by reducing the facilities for bribery and corruption in our annual municipal elections and septennial Parliamentary contests. A general election, albeit an appeal to the intelligent verdict of the country, is, under present circumstances, an occasion of wholesale vice and dishonest practices. In many a borough an election is a moral blight, which inflicts more harm upon the community than the combined influence of all our educational and religious agencies can repair. Mr. Forster's Bill promises to secure, so far as legal enactments can avail, electoral purity, freedom, and quietude. It boldly goes to the root of the manifold vices of the present system, by ensuring the peaceful exercise of the franchise, the inviolability of the elector's vote, and by making illegitimate practices both useless and perilous.

So thorough and far-reaching a measure is sure to encounter strenuous and sinister opposition. All the resources of party ingenuity and tactics will be exhausted to smother or shunt it. It can alone be carried by the united strength of the Liberal party. The *Times* already blows upon the measure, and, as was the case last year, suggests that it must inevitably be sacrificed at the close of the Session. The present Bill, more complete and Radical than the measure of 1870, is a credit to the Government which has produced it, and is well worth fighting for. Mr. Forster and his colleagues will need all the support which outdoor opinion can supply to carry it through. To insure perfect freedom in the exercise of the franchise, to put down mob violence, to check electoral debauchery, and to reduce, as far as is possible by law, the flood of corruption and the carnival of drunkenness which sets in with every general election, are objects which are dear to every political reformer and every citizen who cares for the moral elevation of the people. The Government Bill offers these inestimable advantages, and if public opinion heartily and promptly endorses it, party spirit will fail to defeat this new charter of freedom of election.

THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT AND THE WAR.

THE Blue Book containing the official correspondence on the Franco-German war has been of so little service to the Opposition that in the debate initiated on the subject by Mr. Auberon Herbert, hardly a voice was raised on that side of the House except in approval of the Government policy. Such a tribute to the sound judgment and tact of Earl Granville and his colleagues, in circumstances of great difficulty and delicacy, is very remarkable. They were able to steer so dexterously between Prussian jealousy and French importunity that even their political foes have been able to find no fault with them, and a discussion which might under other circumstances have perilled the position of the Cabinet, has passed over without the semblance of a party conflict.

This satisfactory result is due not less to the distinct and sound principles on which our Government from the first outbreak of the war decided to shape their course, than to the special features of the European crisis as from time to time they were developed. Earl Granville in the earliest stage of the war laid it down that he would not interpose without the prospect of a definite result which would not compromise the British Government, and without the concurrence of the other neutral Powers. He would not offer mediation either jointly or singly unless he “had reason to believe that it would be acceptable to both parties, and that there seemed to be a basis on which both belligerents would agree to negotiate.” His responsibility was all the greater because all the neutral Powers expected England to take the lead in any action that might be deemed necessary. Our Government did not, however, remain cold and passive spectators of the terrible conflict. When there was a suitable opening, as in

bringing about the interview at Ferrières, and in prospect of the bombardment of Paris, they did tender their good offices, and it was no fault of Lord Granville that his action was barren of results.

The circumstances were so unfavourable to mediation between the belligerents that a Conservative Foreign Secretary, notwithstanding the screechings of the *Standard*, would probably have pursued substantially the same policy as Earl Granville. About the middle of August, Russia seemed disposed in favour of joint action, Prince Gortschakoff having declared “that if one of the great Powers should make a practical proposal for the restoration of peace, Russia would adhere to it, as Europe requires the early re-establishment of peace on a just and durable basis.” At that stage of the war—a fortnight before the capitulation of Sedan—no such suggestion could be put into a feasible shape, and from henceforth the Czar, for his own purposes, declined to interfere even to bring about an armistice, preferring to “express his opinions in his private correspondence” with the King of Prussia. After the overthrow of the Empire, Count Bismark insisted on possession of French fortresses “with the sole object of making more difficult for France her next attack upon Germany.” While M. Jules Favre was reiterating his celebrated declaration that France would not cede “an inch of her territory, or a stone of her fortresses,” not a single Power showed any sympathy with that resolution, or any disposition to mediate between the two belligerents. Austria pleaded her peculiar position; Italy warned the French Government that they “would go from defeat to defeat”; and Mr. Fish, on behalf of the United States, thought it could hardly be expected that Germany would be satisfied without a large pecuniary indemnity and the destruction of certain fortresses. No wonder that our Government, in such circumstances, should have felt precluded from any attempt to serve the interests of France.

After all, the greatest obstacle to such a policy was the conduct of the Government of Defence. As early as the period immediately succeeding the interview of Ferrières, M. Favre declared:—“The time for mere good offices has passed. The Powers should now speak to Prussia in a tone which could not be mistaken, and take measures to insure their being listened to.” In October—though the British Government had just sought, without effect, the co-operation of Russia to obtain moderate terms for France—Lord Lyons was told that whatever steps the neutral Powers take must be taken of their own accord; and in December, the representative of the Foreign Office at Bordeaux emphatically declined to authorise Earl Granville to inquire, on behalf of France, on what terms Prussia would conclude a treaty of peace. In other words, France, though beaten, would not become a suppliant, but the neutral Powers might, if they pleased, attempt to impose conditions on her foe—that is, to go to war on her behalf! Such was, indeed, the course urged at this very period by an excited section of English politicians. No confidence was placed in the Government which knew all the circumstances, and if the advice of the working-class leaders had been followed, we should have plunged into hostilities with Germany when even the French Government repudiated our good offices, when every other Power felt constrained to hold aloof, and when, as it now clearly appears, the great mass of the French people desired peace at almost any price.

The debate of Friday night was unreal and valueless, except to exhibit what was already known—the heartfelt sympathies of the people of England in the misfortunes of France. No statesman of eminence came forward to impugn the action of our Government, which could not be injured by Sir Robert Peel's lively verbal criticisms or Mr. Herbert's fervent appeals. The motion of the hon. member for Nottingham simply proposed that England should “act in concert with other neutral Powers to obtain moderate terms of peace, and withhold all acquiescence in terms which might impair the independence of France or threaten the future tranquillity of Europe.” But, inasmuch as the neutral Powers are no more disposed to act together than previously, and neither Germany nor France herself desires our mediation, the appeal of Mr. Auberon Herbert was resultless, and the motion was withdrawn. In his closing speech, Mr. Gladstone expressed the hope that this country might enjoy “the great and noble distinction” of helping to mitigate the conditions imposed upon France so that they should not contain the seeds of future trouble and disorder. Perhaps he may have had some warrant for this aspiration. But Count Bismark ostentatiously repudiates external advice or intervention, and

apparently this fearful war will be terminated as it was begun by the two belligerents alone. If France has not in any way been assisted by the good office of the neutral Powers, it was because she took up an untenable position. Not a little of her present humiliation would have been spared if the National Assembly, now convened in her last extremity, had, as was so strongly urged by Earl Granville, been summoned in November, before the country was exhausted, and Paris not yet bombarded.

CURIOSITIES OF EDUCATION.

Mr. G. T. C. BARTLEY, whose pen has been so usefully employed in describing the educational deficiencies of the metropolis, has just published a volume descriptive of the past and present condition of popular education in this country—a work far more deserving of careful notice than most of the volumes continually issuing from the press. It is an exhaustive work, dealing solely with facts, and full of information of the most interesting character. Mr. Bartley divides the history of popular education in this country into five periods, those of the grammar schools, parochial charity schools, educational societies, Parliamentary grants towards the building of schools, and Parliamentary grants towards the annual expenses of schools. To show the pressing need for the Elementary Education Act of last year, Mr. Bartley points out that while the estimated number of children between the ages of three and twelve is 3,936,513, the average number attending school is little less than one-third, being only 1,384,203. As an example of the complete impotency of existing regulations to reach children neglected by their parents, Mr. Bartley cites the following case which came within his special knowledge. In pursuing inquiries at the East End of London during last February, he took particular interest in a sharp little fellow with whom he became acquainted. He was about twelve years of age, and his residence, if it could be called such, was within a mile of the Bank of England and the mansion of the Lord Mayor. It was also within fifty yards of a parish church and a vicarage. Taking the boy's home as a centre, and striking a half-mile radius, the following institutions were to be found:—Twenty Episcopal churches, with vicars, curates, district visitors, Sunday-schools, &c.; a still larger number of Dissenting chapels, with numerous ministers and other helpers; nineteen elementary schools aided by Government grants; twenty-seven other elementary schools; and an innumerable number of dame-schools and such-like places of instruction. Surely here was educational machinery enough; but no, in spite of this abundance of means, the wretched boy did not even know his own name, save what he was called "Diddlego." Of course he could not read, nor had he the slightest knowledge of the elements of religion. Were this an exceptional instance, it would stand for nothing, but within that very half-mile radius, there are at this very moment, according to Mr. Bartley, at least twenty thousand children in a like deplorable state of ignorance. The educational measures of the Government were not adopted a moment too early; and the new School Boards will find more than enough to do in attending to the cultivation of a soil rank with the growth of many years of ignorance and neglect.

Among the schools established to meet special cases, such as the schools for the blind, or the deaf and dumb, there are many possessing more than ordinary interest. Among these are the schools for cripples. These are of recent origin, the first being no older than 1851. The idea of such institutions arose out of some ladies proposing to establish a female industrial school. They commenced with three children, but of these one was a cripple. In London there are three such schools, accommodating about 180 scholars, a very small proportion of the thousands of children who have wholly or partially lost the use of their limbs. The training is both educational and industrial, the cost of each child—maintenance and clothing included—being about 8*l.* per annum. Until very recently the idea of systematically educating the deaf and dumb was considered hopeless, although there have not been wanting instances, some dating as far back as the 15th century, to show that the dumb can be taught to partially converse with the lips, or with the fingers. The first British school of this kind dates from Edinburgh about 1760. Among the causes which tend to produce deafness and dumbness combined, the principal is the consanguinity of the parents. The number of deaf and dumb people in this country is estimated at 12,236. The various schools and asylums provide accommodation for about 1,170 children so afflicted. The instruction afforded is peculiar, but efficient when properly carried out. As

a rule, the great majority of deaf and dumb pupils contrive, after receiving a suitable education, to earn a respectable livelihood. In the Census of 1861 nearly 2,000 deaf and dumb people were described as being tailors, farmers, shopkeepers, &c., only 106 being entered as paupers. There are more than 29,000 persons deprived of the blessings of sight in this country. The means of educating these are miserably deficient, a circumstance arising principally from the different rival systems of educational training pursued, especially in connection with the embossed alphabets, of which there are several, their multiplication rendering the expense of teaching more costly than it would otherwise be. Instruction in music forms a special feature in most blind schools. The labour of teaching a blind pupil the elements of music is great, but these once mastered, his progress is rapid. The teaching, whether educational or industrial, is invariably by sighted persons; the employment of the blind as such being found to answer but imperfectly. Like their deaf and dumb brethren, the blind, when educated properly, seem to have comparatively little difficulty in obtaining a livelihood, a circumstance which renders it a matter for regret that the work of education should be found too costly for the very poor.

The imbecile and idiotic portion of the community form a rather numerous class, far more so than many persons suspect, and their helpless condition irresistibly awakens our active sympathy and desire to afford practical relief. Yet, despite the clearly ascertained fact that constant and systematic educational training is found efficacious in ameliorating the mental and physical defects from which these poor creatures suffer so heavily, we have but one institution, that at Earlswood, where this special instruction is imparted on a properly comprehensive scale. At Earlswood there are about five hundred inmates, male and female, most of whom receive considerable benefit from the instruction afforded them. Most of the pupils who are received free are, after a period, received back by their friends or relatives; some are allowed to remain for another period of five years, and a few are received as permanent inmates. The deficient mental condition of the pupils is shown by the fact that, of 164 without any physical infirmity, on an average 16 cannot speak at all, 30 can only utter a few sounds, 36 can speak indistinctly, 64 can speak fairly. In the knowledge of common objects, such as coins, &c., but 24 know all the coins and weights, and can calculate a little; 23 know all the coins and some weights, 23 know a few coins and weights, 29 know only a few coins, 47 know none at all. In the use of the clock the greatest ignorance prevails. Out of 146 imbeciles, about 8 can tell the time to a minute, 8 can tell it within five minutes, 12 can tell the hours, 14 can tell some of the hours, 5 know twelve o'clock, 99 cannot tell the time at all. Arithmetic is a great difficulty. Some of the pupils, up to eighteen or twenty years of age, after considerable teaching, find it impossible to add two or three figures together. Nothing but system, patience, kindness, and perseverance can succeed with these mental outcasts and bring them within the pale of intellectual influences. The means of instruction employed are as ingenious as they are various, and reflect the highest credit on the humane impulses of those who have devoted themselves to the work of instructing these scantily favoured members of our community. Music is found to exercise a beneficial effect on the pupils, and it has often been remarked that when the Asylum band performs, those who at other times are in a state of apathy, rouse up, and in many eccentric ways show how much they enjoy it. The industrial training is generally more successful than the purely mental, and several of those who were formerly inmates of the institution are now earning a livelihood at tailoring, mat-making, farm-labour, and other occupations. At any rate, they are no longer wholly helpless. But it is sad to think that for every one pupil admitted into the Earlswood institution there are scores who, from want of accommodation, remain debarred from participating in its advantages.

The decay of the parochial charity schools is attributable partly to the increase of their means of support, a large number being so liberally provided for by endowment, that the local interest consequent on the necessary efforts to keep up the funds died out; at the same time, the teaching fell off, the teacher's remuneration not being dependent on his energy, but remaining the same, no matter how great or how poor the success of the school. In strange contrast to these is the Ashley Down Orphan School. This is the largest boarding-school in the kingdom, the number of inmates being about 1,600. The cost of the buildings was no less than 110,000*l.*, the whole of which, together with the annual income, amounting to

about 20,000*l.*, was derived from subscriptions and donations, chiefly anonymous. Mr. Muller, the founder of the orphanage, has never asked for aid. Such an act on his part would be contrary to the avowed principle on which he entered on the work on which he has been so long engaged. He considers that all the support which he has received has been given in answer to prayer. At times, during the history of the schools, the orphans have been reduced almost to their last day's meal, and even then Mr. Muller has taken no steps beyond praying for assistance. At these times, by some donation at the very moment when it was most required, their larder has again been replenished. The average amount thus obtained is somewhat more than 300*l.* per week. Articles of jewellery are constantly being sent as donations, and constitute a leading feature in the receipts. The efficiency of the moral training to which the children are subjected is shown by the fact that not 5 per cent. go wrong after leaving the school. The industrial training, however, is capable of improvement. A large number of other curiosities of education might be adduced, but those above quoted will suffice to show the interesting character of Mr. Bartley's work, a volume of which we hope again to make some practical use.

Court, Official, and Personal News.

The Rev. Stopford Brooke preached before the Queen on Sunday in the private chapel at Windsor. Count Szécsen, the Earl of Clanwilliam, and Lord and Lady Alexander Russell have been visiting Her Majesty at Windsor. On Friday Major-General E. S. Claremont, C.B., Her Majesty's military attaché at Paris, had an interview with the Queen.

The Prince of Wales, accompanied by Count Gleichen, was present on Saturday at a field-day of the Household Brigade at Wimbledon. In the evening the Prince and Princess had a dinner-party at Marlborough House.

The marriage of the Princess Louise will be celebrated at Windsor Castle on the 21st of March next. Although the ceremony will be performed in St. George's Chapel, it will be conducted in the same private manner as that of the Princess Helena in the private chapel of the Castle.

Sir Stafford Northcote, one of the members of the United States Commission, sailed from Liverpool on Saturday for New York in the Cunard steamer *Russia*.

Intelligence was received in London on Friday to the effect that Mr. Childers had arrived at Lisbon, that his health was, so far, little improved by the trip, and that he intended to return to England at once.

Lord Halifax is now in charge of the Admiralty, though unofficially, and the *Globe* understands, should Mr. Childers not return, his lordship will retain the office.

The first steps have been taken by the War Department to arm the forts and batteries recently constructed for the better defence of the Thames and Medway with the powerful guns specially manufactured for them.

The *Echo* understands that the report of the Sanitary Commission, which will shortly be published, recommends the detachment of the Health Department from the Home Office, and its association with the Poor-law Board, the two to be under the control of a Minister of Health and the Poor. Another recommendation, we believe, will be the establishment in every district of a local sanitary authority; the formation of a local board being compulsory in places having more than 3,000 population. A consolidation of the Sanitary Acts is also one of the recommendations of the Commissioners.

The Queen and Royal family arrived in London on Monday from Windsor Castle, and will remain at Buckingham Palace until the end of the week.

The *Daily News* says that the statement that Mr. Bright is likely to return, in the course of a few weeks, to his Parliamentary duties is not well founded. Acting on the permission given him by his constituents, and on the advice of his physicians, the right honourable gentleman will probably make no attempt to take part in public affairs during the present session. His health is making steady though necessarily gradual progress towards complete restoration. Mr. Bright's reappearance in the House of Commons will most likely be preceded by a visit and a speech to his constituents.

The *Observer* announces that Mr. Leslie Stephen has been appointed to the editorship of the *Cornhill Magazine*.

Yesterday morning the Queen, accompanied by the Princess Louise, paid a visit to the Duke and Duchess of Argyll. Her Majesty subsequently held a court at Buckingham Palace.

The Haberdashers' Company have sent ten guineas and the Outters' Company ten guineas, towards the heavy current expenses of the Royal Hospital for Diseases of the Chest, in the City-road.

THE WAR.

RECONSTRUCTION IN FRANCE.

At the sitting of the National Assembly at Bordeaux on Thursday, M. Grévy was elected President by 519 out of 538 votes recorded. On Friday the following resolution, brought forward by MM. Dufaure, Grévy, Malleville, Vilet, and Barthélemy St. Hilaire, was adopted almost unanimously—

"That M. Thiers be appointed Head of the Executive Power, which he will exercise under the control of the Assembly, and will select Ministers who shall assist him in his mission."

On Friday M. Keller, the member for Strasbourg, presented a petition to the Assembly, signed by the representatives of the departments which Prussia is expected to annex, protesting against the transfer, and calling upon the Chambers to proclaim the inviolability of the connection between France and Alsace and Lorraine. The petition brought matters to a crisis. Great enthusiasm was naturally excited in the Chamber; and M. Rochefort, as the representative of the *guerre à outrance* party, demanded that the petition should be at once referred to the Bureaux. M. Thiers cut the ground from under the feet of the Opposition by accepting the challenge, and urging the House to vote on the spot. The Chambers forthwith consulted in their Bureaux, and, after a debate which seems not to have lasted more than a couple of hours, they agreed to a resolution expressing the warmest sympathy for the people of the Eastern provinces, acknowledging the receipt of their protest, and stating that it would be duly transmitted to the persons appointed to negotiate with Prussia.

At Saturday's sitting the deputies from the Department of the Meurthe arrived, and took their seats in the Assembly. They formally expressed their adhesion to the declaration presented by M. Keller. The President of the Assembly then read a letter from M. Thiers expressing his gratitude for the confidence reposed in him by the members, and assuring them of the devotion with which he should apply himself to the accomplishment of his task. M. Henri Rochefort made a fresh complaint of the display of military force in the vicinity of the Chamber. Some elections were subsequently declared valid, and the sitting terminated.

At Sunday's sitting M. Thiers was present, and read a speech, in which he stated that, though appalled at the painful task imposed upon him by the country, he accepted it with obedience, devotion, and love—sentiments of which France stood all the more in need, inasmuch as she was unfortunately more unfortunate than at any former period of her history. But, he added, she is still great, young, rich, and full of resources, and will always remain a lasting monument of human energy. M. Thiers then announced that in selecting the members of the Ministry he had been guided solely by the public esteem they enjoyed and their public character and capacities. The following is the list:—M. Buffet is Minister of Finance, Jules Favre assumes the Portfolio of Foreign Affairs. M. Picard, M. Dufaure, and Admiral Jaureguiberry are respectively Minister of the Interior, of Justice, and of the Navy; and General Leflô is at the head of the Army. All these gentlemen are either avowed adherents of the Orleanist dynasty, or belong to that moderate section of the Republican party which confessedly would prefer a Constitutional Monarchy to a Socialist-Democratic Republic. The only member of the new administration who is in any way identified with the advanced party is M. Jules Simon; and even the late Minister of Public Worship under the Committee of National Defence has always been regarded by his colleagues as a not very ardent supporter of the Republican cause. It seems, however, that M. Jules Simon's Republicanism, moderate as it is, was distasteful to the majority which has raised M. Thiers to power. When his appointment was made known, a meeting of Deputies, representing the party of order, protested against the decision which entrusted him with the Ministry of Public Instruction, on the plea that he was an avowed free thinker. M. Thiers gave way to their representations, and M. Simon, in consequence, has resigned his post.

At a subsequent part of Sunday's sitting of the National Assembly, M. Thiers said that he did not lay down any programme, which was always a vague thing, but at the present time there was only one line of policy to follow, and it was urgent to put an end to the evils afflicting the country, and to put an end to the occupation of the enemy. The country had need of peace, which must be courageously discussed, and only accepted if honourable. M. Thiers announced the reconstruction of the Councils-General and municipalities by fresh elections. The Government would devote all its power to pacify and reorganise the country, to revive credit and reorganise labour. M. Thiers said that nothing was more pressing than that task.

I cannot imagine that anyone can occupy himself with the Constitutional question while France is debating in the grasp of the enemy. Such is our policy. Every man of sense, be he a Monarchist or a Republican, can work usefully for the interest of the country, so that it should say to us under what form of Government it desires to exist, and then, with full knowledge of its wants,

we can decide your destiny, and that, not only by a minority, but by the national will. Such is the policy to which my colleagues and myself devote ourselves. To give your assistance to the policy whose only objects are the interest of the country will be the strongest power you can confer upon your negotiators.

Loud applause greeted the speech of M. Thiers.

M. Jules Favre then rose and said:—

The Government has deemed it necessary to unite Parliamentary powers with those of the Executive, and proposes in consequence that, in order to facilitate the negotiations, the Assembly should appoint a committee of fifteen deputies to proceed at once to Paris, who will be in constant communication with the negotiators. The latter will be empowered to negotiate in the name of the country, and the Commission will be informed of the negotiations, and subsequently report thereon to the Assembly.

M. Thiers proposed that the Assembly should suspend its sittings during the negotiations.

At the same sitting, in reply to a question of M. Gambetta, M. Jules Simon said that the French Government did not intend that the committee should in any way pledge the Assembly, but merely act as an intermediary between that body and the negotiators at Versailles. M. Gambetta declared himself satisfied with these explanations. It was proposed by M. Thiers that during the negotiations the Assembly should be suspended.

M. Thiers, M. Picard, and M. Jules Favre left Bordeaux for Paris on Sunday evening.

A telegram from Bordeaux, dated Monday, says:—

"In the commission of fifteen deputies appointed to assist in the peace negotiations, the name of M. de Mérode has been substituted for that of M. de Limayrac. These deputies will be called diplomatic commissioners, and will sit at Paris, in order to be at the disposition of the negotiators. The appointment of several ambassadors is shortly expected. The Duc de Broglie and M. Guizot are mentioned as the French representatives at London, M. Alfred de Remusat at Vienna, the Duc de Noailles at St. Petersburg, and Count Melchior de Vogue at Constantinople. M. Cathelineau has declined to take his seat as Deputy for Bouches de Rhône, not wishing to separate himself at the present time from his companions in arms. He also states that he could not consent to treat with the invader, since he wishes to preserve France in her entirety. The inquiry proposed by MM. Barthélemy de St. Hilaire, Daru, &c., will be held by eight commissioners of forty-five members, each of which will be appointed by the Bureaux. The commission will respectively report:—

1. Upon the condition of the military forces;
2. Upon the state of the Marine;
3. Finances;
4. The state of the railways, rivers, and canals;
5. Postal and telegraphic communication;
6. The state of the invaded departments;
7. The condition of the internal administration; and
8. The general state of commerce in France.

The Council of Ministers meets daily at Bordeaux."

THE PEACE NEGOTIATIONS.

A Berlin telegram states that the Cabinet of the German Empire still energetically repudiates every interference on the part of neutrals with respect to the terms of peace.

On Sunday MM. Thiers and Favre went to Versailles to open negotiations, though a Berlin telegram says that the German terms of peace as presented by Count Bismark will be in the nature of an ultimatum.

The official text of the agreement entered into between Jules Favre and Count Bismark for the prolongation of the armistice states that it will be extended to Friday next, the 24th inst., with power to renew the extension should circumstances demand it.

La Liberté announces authoritatively that Count Bismark will show his esteem for the new French Government by granting a prolongation of the armistice until the 5th of March.

A telegram from Paris of Monday's date says:—"The question relating to the cession of Metz has now been determined. The line of the Lorraine territory which is to be annexed by Germany will include Pont-à-Mousson."

The contributions levied in different parts of France, if not imposed in the shape of fines, will be calculated in the whole amount of the war indemnity.

Referring to preparations for continuing the war reported from the South, the *Moniteur* of Versailles observes that Germany must insist all the more on guarantees, especially those to be procured by an occupation of Paris.

The military authorities in Berlin appear so thoroughly persuaded that peace is close at hand, that they have given orders to the Society for the Aid of the Sick and Wounded to remove from the barracks which they are using as ambulances in order to make way for the approaching return of the different regiments.

The Paris correspondent of the *Telegraph* says:—"The question relating to the cession of Metz has now been determined. The line of the Lorraine territory which is to be annexed by Germany will include Pont-à-Mousson."

A Paris telegram through Mr. Reuter's office, dated the 19th, says:—"It is stated on good authority that the conditions of peace demanded by Germany are as follows:—The cession of Alsace, a portion of Lorraine, with Thionville, Metz, and Belfort, and the payment of an indemnity of 250,000,000."

Dr. Russell telegraphs from Versailles on Monday:—"The territorial concessions to be demanded of France are finally determined, and will form part of the ultimatum submitted for the acceptance of the

French Government, without power of modification. The German line of demarcation extends twelve leagues west of Metz, going down through Chateau Salins towards the Vosges, taking in the departments of the Lower and Upper Rhine, up to and including Belfort. MM. Thiers, Picard, and Jules Favre will hold a meeting to-morrow (Tuesday) with Count Bismark at Sceaux."

RECOGNITION OF THE NEW GOVERNMENT.

An official communication from the Foreign Office states that in consequence of M. Thiers having been appointed by the Assembly at Bordeaux Chief of the Executive Power of the French Republic, Lord Lyons has verbally announced to him the recognition of his Government by Great Britain. It is said that Count Bismark will soon take a similar step.

Austria, Russia, Spain, and Portugal, have also formally recognised the new Government.

CAPITULATION OF BELFORT.

The strong fortress of Belfort, in Alsace, capitulated to the Germans last week, it is stated, by order of the French Government, as a condition of the prolongation of the armistice. The troops, 12,000 in number, were not only permitted to march out with the honours of war and the armaments and archives of the fortress, but will continue to occupy the Departments of the Cote d'Or and the Jura.

The German troops occupy the Doubs, with the exception of the territory south of Lons-le-Saulnier.

STATE OF PARIS.

The following are extracts from a Paris communication in the *Daily Telegraph*, dated on Sunday last:—"The police-agents in the city are searching for arms and hand-grenades in the turbulent districts. The authorities do not anticipate any organised attempt on the part of the people to prevent the entry of the Prussian troops into Paris, should the design presently entertained at the German head-quarters be carried out. Much fear, however, is entertained by the Government that some of the turbulent inhabitants of La Villette or Belleville may make some unpleasant demonstration against the Emperor or Count Bismark—two personages with regard to whom the popular exasperation is intense. A large number of hand-grenades has been already seized by the police-agents. Day by day Paris is regaining its old aspect. Soon the streets will be lighted again with gas. The river-steamers have already commenced to ply; but in the meantime the city traffic is confined to the passage of omnibuses and of a few carts, for scarcely any cabs are to be seen. The districts of France at this moment occupied by the German troops have been divided into four Governments, the head-quarters of which are established respectively at Strasbourg, Nancy, Rheims, and Versailles. The total number of French subjects at present under German administration is about ten millions and a quarter, without reckoning those parts of the Departments of the Doubs, the Jura, and the Côte d'Or, where the line of demarcation was not traced in the Convention of the 28th of January. In other words, one-third of the soil of France is now occupied by the troops of the invader. A Prussian *sous-préfet* has been appointed at St. Denis. From that town a requisition of 800,000 francs has been exacted. A strong force of Gardes Mobiles has been for some days employed in removing the barricades and defences on the Avenue de l'Impératrice—which is now called the Avenue Urich—that were thrown up by the Commission of Barricades under the presidency of M. Rochefort."

A letter from the French capital says:—"As to the material condition of Paris, it may fairly be said that infinitely more damage has been done to the city by the Parisians than by the Prussians. The damage done to a few houses in the Luxembourg quarter and at the Pont du Jour may be so repaired in a few weeks as to be imperceptible; the stately trees which have been destroyed in the Champs Elysées and in the Avenue Montaigne cannot be replaced in the present century."

A telegram from Paris says that the Government intends to stop the daily pay hitherto given to the National Guards and their wives. Work will be provided as far as possible for those who need it.

Coke and coal are arriving at Paris in tolerably large quantities. At the Opera the saloon was heated for the first time on Friday week, but the service of gas for lighting the building will not be re-established as soon as it was hoped.

In Paris prices are still very high, but ridiculously low compared with the last week of the siege. It may interest the family reader to give a few general figures, as near as they can be averaged, for there cannot yet be said to exist a market price. Eggs are from 2d. to 4d. each; a month ago they were worth 1s. to 1s. 3d. Herrings are about the price of eggs. Bacon, 1s. 6d. to 2s. 2d. the pound, compared with 10s. to 15s. a month since; ham, 2s. to 2s. 6d. the pound, worth any money at the end of the siege; potatoes, 3d. to 6d. the pound, compared with 1s. to 1s. 6d.; butter, 2s. to 3s. the pound, compared with 15s. to 20s.; rabbits, 4s. to 7s. each, compared with 15s. to 20s.; fowls, 5s. to 8s., compared with 17s. to 25s.; turkeys, 15s. to 1l. compared with 4l. to 8l. Fish is selling dear; there was none to be had a month ago. Butcher's meat is at about twice its normal price. The Paris correspondent of the *Echo*, writing on the 16th, says:—

The general view of the streets of Paris is not so picturesque now as it was last week. Then the roads and the pavements, the squares and the alleys, the carstones and doorways, were dotted and lined with large and small costermongers of every description; everybody out of work and money—men, women, and

children—had managed to get some provisions at the outposts, and were retailing them at a fair profit. Some had old sacks of potatoes, some broken baskets of herrings, some boxes of cheese and butter, others vegetables strewed out on paper or a plank; the regular costermongers were better off—they had their barrows and trucks laden with pork, bacon, fowls, and fish; one or two had turned into small egg-merchants, and had got English Cheshire cheese. But the Prefect of Police has just put a stop to nearly all this promiscuous itinerant trading; the thoroughfares in some parts were blocked up; and now that the famishing town has supplied its first wants, the Prefect thinks it is time to put matters on their old original footing, and warns all these petty dealers that they must confine the scope of their operations to the immediate vicinity of the various markets, as in times gone by, and that the costermongers must not loiter about. But, in spite of this order, there is still a fair sprinkling of pavement commerce in the less frequented thoroughfares. The markets are full to overflowing. I heard an old cook say yesterday that she never saw the central market stocked with a finer show, and an old cook ought to be an authority on such a subject. The butchers' shops are getting ruddier and more radiant every day with symmetrically arranged rows of legs of mutton and ribs of beef; their marble slabs are whiter than ever, and their elegant brass scales and weights more dazlingly brazen. Next to the butcher, in point of substantial interest, comes the *marchand de comestibles*, a dealer in all sorts of good things and delicacies—from truffles to game, hot-house fruits to salmon, asparagus to prawns. At any season of any year you are sure to find his shop window surrounded by a crowd of persons feasting their eyes and vexing their spirits, but at the present moment he is literally besieged. I passed Chevet's in the Palais Royal to-day, and the pavement was blocked up with people anxious to get a look at things they have not seen so long. Some lobsters and salmon appeared to come in for most of the public applause; a little rare game made a few eyes twinkle, and some rich pears set all mouths watering. I remarked that many of the cheap restaurants had recommenced business; at present the want of fuel (which is a long time coming in) is the chief obstacle in the way of the eating-housekeepers. The next order of shops which attract the public gaze are the butter-merchants and cheesemongers. Of butter it may fairly be said we have never seen such quantities in Paris. It is of all colours—dark yellow, light yellow, and white yellow—and is patted into all sizes and shapes, from the large substantial tub-like form to the small delicate bomb-like roll, according to the part from which it comes. Cheeses are moderately plentiful. The quantity of English Cheshire about is extraordinary, and is selling at a shilling to eighteenpence a pound, which is about half the price of French cheese.

A telegram of Monday says:—"The scarcity of fuel is still much felt here, both for industrial and domestic purposes. The administration of the Chemin de Fer du Nord is coming to the rescue by sharing with the population coal daily arriving for its own use. The Mairie of Paris has undertaken the distribution of the coal given by the company. Paris will be again lit with gas on Saturday, or, at furthest, on Sunday night next. Mr. Moore and Colonel Stuart Wortley, the delegates of the Mansion House Fund, have just left to make a tour of the villages on the north and north-east line of investment. Since the 3rd inst., 14,352 oxen, 15,352 sheep, 1,776 cows, and 3,768 pigs have been brought into the Paris market. Other supplies brought in have been 20,000,991 kilogrammes of grain, 29,327,580 kilogrammes of flour, 9,190,029 kilogrammes of biscuits. *Le Figaro* says that the carriage of the *matériel* of war surrendered to the Prussians along the streets of Paris in open day is calculated to exasperate the population. Ten omnibuses filled with muskets passed along the Boulevards yesterday. The *Figaro* suggests that the thing should be done somewhat less openly. The shopkeepers of the city complain that provisions have arrived so rapidly that they cannot make the enormous profits which they anticipated. Horseflesh has now altogether disappeared. Yesterday was *Dimanche Gras*. Paris was gay, in spite of its being prisoner of war, and of the total absence of masks. Since the conclusion of the armistice the German requisitions have become more heavy. It is said that Messrs. Rothschild advanced 800,000 francs to pay the St. Denis war indemnity. Yesterday afternoon the weather was beautiful—more like June than February; blue sky, silver clouds, and warm sunshine. Vast masses of people, including Mobiles and National Guards, thronged all the public thoroughfares and the principal promenades; and the same light-heartedness prevailed as if no enemy was outside, preparing to enter the city in triumph. In the Avenues which radiate from the Arc de Triomphe most of the barricades still remain, but they are in process of removal. At the Barrière du Trône and other spots, *Legu* workmen engaged in clearing away all obstacles which could interfere with the march of the German Army. The principal point of interest for the new foreign visitors to Paris is the Pont du Jour, in which neighbourhood the Prussian shells fell thickly. The omnibuses are crowded. Very few cabs are obtainable. Private carriages are increasing in number, although there are still very few as yet; and horsemen are scarcely to be seen, excepting mounted officers. The conversation in the *cafés* turns chiefly upon the possible entry of the German troops. Although bitter regrets are expressed for the degradation inflicted upon the city, it is generally agreed that the French would have done the same thing at Berlin. Every one expresses his sincere hope that none of the Reds will be so mad as to attempt doing any injury to the German chiefs. Still, no one can venture to say what will happen."

THE GERMAN ENTRY INTO PARIS.

A telegram from Versailles of the 19th instant in the *Daily Telegraph* says:—"On the 24th instant the German troops will enter Paris, and take possession

of the line of route which will be followed by the Imperial *cortège*. Every precaution to secure the safety of the Emperor will be taken. The houses on either side of the route will be occupied by the invading troops. The chief director of the field police, Privy Councillor Stiener, will be entrusted with the care of all the preliminaries, and so soon as the arrangements are completed the Emperor will enter. His Majesty will lunch at the Ecole Militaire, as there is much hospital fever at the Tuileries. He will then review his troops in the Champs de Mars, and will return to Versailles the same evening. The review will consist of a march past, and it is now considered probable that the Emperor will not repeat his visit to Paris, but will leave Versailles at once for Karlsruhe, Stuttgart, and Munich, paying complimentary visits to the South German Sovereigns, thanking them for their assistance in the war, and inviting them personally to be present at the triumphal entry of the Prussian troops into Berlin. In the review of the German troops in the Champs de Mars, the foremost place will be taken by the Prussian Guard and the Landwehr of the Guard, with colours flying and bands playing. It is believed that not more than four *corps d'armée*, besides the Guard, will file before the Emperor. Even so, the number of troops reviewed will be about 120,000 men; but all the German troops now in France will have the opportunity of visiting Paris before their return home."

A Paris telegram says that the question of the entry into Paris is adjourned. M. Jules Favre has declared to Count Bismark, in the name of the officers and soldiers of the French army, that they would prefer to be sent to Germany rather than be present at such a sight.

BONAPARTISTS AND ORLEANISTS.

A petition to the National Assembly, which is being circulated amongst the French prisoners in Germany, expresses the willingness of the troops to serve whatever Government may be chosen by France, if it truly represent the national feeling as ascertained through the agency of the suffrage. The Assembly is, therefore, called upon to submit these questions to the country:—"1. Monarchy or Republic? 2. The name of the monarch"; that is, of course, assuming the choice of the country to be in favour of a monarchical Government.

A Brussels telegram says:—"The Bonapartist emissaries continue very active in their agitation amongst the French prisoners in Germany for a *Plebiscite*."

A telegram in the *Manchester Guardian* quotes the *Berlin Post* as authority for the statement that the Emperor Napoleon has received a reminder from Versailles that he must not again overstep the privileges of a prisoner of war, but must abstain from all interference in politics, through protests, proclamations, or any other form of demonstration. Orders have also been sent to Wilhelmshöhe to watch the Imperial prisoner rather more closely than hitherto.

The *Frankfurter Zeitung* says that the Emperor Napoleon wishes for the establishment of the Republic by the National Assembly, as he thinks this the speediest way for the restoration of the Empire.

The Ministerial organ of North Germany at Berlin, the *Gazette*, speaks of the Emperor Napoleon's proclamation as clever; all the other German journals criticise it very severely.

A despatch from Paris says:—"In the Department of the Somme the people hail with delight the arrival of the Duke d'Aumale, and all over Northern France an extraordinary affection appears to be entertained for the family of the Citizen-King. The manufacturers in the neighbourhood of Villers-Bretonneux, Cacy, Longueau, Cagny, and the adjacent villages, are all thoroughly Bourbonist in their political principles. The proclamation which the Emperor Napoleon lately issued from Wilhelmshöhe was read aloud at the Mairie of Amiens, before a large assemblage of the municipal and other authorities of the city. The reading was listened to with ill-suppressed impatience; at the conclusion, even the dignity of the Municipal Council gave way, and strong language was employed by dignified local personages."

The *Gazette de France* says:—"It is stated that the Orleans Princes who were at Bordeaux have left again by the advice of their friends, and they will no longer insist upon being admitted to the Chamber, knowing that if their election were verified by the House, the Emperor Napoleon would present himself as a candidate in various electoral colleges, and put forth the same motives for election as the Princes."

The *North German Gazette* takes an unfavourable view of Orleanist ascendancy, the Orleanists having "publicly confessed themselves to be the sworn enemies of Germany."

The *Peuple Français* says that the personal positions which have been either sought or solicited or accepted by the Duc d'Aumale and the Prince de Joinville have rendered their relations with the Comte de Paris, who is the sole rightful Pretender, of an extremely delicate nature, which may even result in a rupture, if not prevented by very powerful influences.

THE MANSION-HOUSE RELIEF FUND.

At a meeting of the committee of the French Relief Fund, held at the Mansion House yesterday, the Lord Mayor in the chair, it was reported that the subscriptions had reached 100,985*l*. Taking into account the expenditure and liabilities, the available balance in hand is 21,000*l*. Letters were then read from Colonel Stuart Wortley and Mr. Moore, stating that they had appointed a committee, headed by the Archbishop of Paris, to take their place in superintending the distribution of the stores

sent for the relief of Paris, agreeably to a resolution of the Mansion House Committee. The committee is composed as follows:—The Archbishop of Paris, Baron Alphonse de Rothschild, M. Alfred André, the well-known Protestant banker, the Hon. Alan Herbert, Mr. Richard Wallace, and Mr. Frederick Marshall.

It was stated that 60,000*l*. worth of provisions had been in all sent to Paris by the committee, and with regard to the 10,000*l*. authorised to be spent in fuel, the Lord Mayor said that he had consulted Mr. Baxter, of the Admiralty, who had placed the services of Mr. MacCulloch, of the purchase department, at the disposal of the Committee, and part of the fuel had been sent *via* Dunkirk and Calais. It was further stated that Count Bismark had telegraphed to the effect that trains containing fuel would have the precedence over other trains. The report that any portion of the food supplies had been sold was again emphatically denied.

The Mayors of Paris have signed an address in the name of their fellow-citizens, expressing to the Lord Mayor, and begging him to transmit to the people of London, their gratitude for the fraternal sympathy manifested by England towards France. The address expresses satisfaction at seeing in the exchange of sentiments a pledge of union in harmony with the interests of the two nations, and necessary for the development of liberty in Europe. The address is to be taken to London by five delegates of the Parisian municipalities.

The provisions taken over to Havre by Her Majesty's ships *Valorous* and *Tamar* towards the revictualling of Paris had to be transferred from those ships to lighters, which proceeded up to the Seine, the railway not being available for the purpose. The *Valorous* was unloaded on the 16th, and the *Tamar* on the 17th.

NOTES AND INCIDENTS.

Karl Blind, Ferdinand Freiligrath, and other German Democrats, have issued a fraternal appeal to the people and the National Assembly of France, urging them to give up further resistance, and to resolve, in presence of overwhelming events, upon a sacrifice which has become inevitable, so as to maintain at least the newly-acquired Republican freedom.

The Crown Prince had left Versailles for a short visit to Orleans and the other extended positions of the German Army.

A despatch in the *Telegraph* says that the German Cabinet prefers a French Republic to any other Government in France, as being the Government most likely to conduce to the preservation of peace in the future.

M. Grévy, who has been elected President of the Assembly, is the author of the celebrated amendment which, if adopted by the *Assemblée Constituante* in 1848, would have effectually prevented the personal rule of Napoleon.

The last return of the weekly mortality in Paris reports the death of between 700 and 800 children under two years of age.

Of the 4,000,000*l*. sterling just advanced by the Paris bankers to the city of Paris, it is stated that 1,600,000*l*. was from Messrs. Rothschild, and 400,000*l*. each from the respective houses of Marcouard, Pilletwill, Mallet, Soliere, Hottinguer, and Fould.

An English resident in Munich writes to the *Times* contradicting a statement which has been circulated to the effect that Prince Otto of Bavaria has been killed by a *Franc-tireur* near Broglie. Prince Otto is alive and well at headquarters in Versailles.

Prince Napoleon has written to the *Times* denying a report that he had offered himself to Count Bismark as successor to Napoleon III. The Prince, who is in London, has taken the house, 108, Lancaster-gate, for a term of years.

Felix Pyat, elected by the Department of the Seine and partisan of war à l'outrance, has issued a programme as follows:—"The shooting of monarchical generals; the appointment of a government authoritatively; the sword of France to be entrusted to Garibaldi; and a *levée en masse* to be ordered."

A letter from Paris brings to notice a curious case of what is called the irony of history. The Great Exhibition of 1851 was supposed to be the inauguration of a period of perpetual peace. A large collection of French wheats was sent to it by order of the National Assembly. After the Exhibition these samples were stored for the benefit of the curious in the galleries of the Conservatoire des Arts et Métiers. The directors of the museum and their families, and the sick and wounded (for whom beds had been prepared in the building) have lived through the latter portion of the siege upon good white bread made out of the samples above mentioned.

It is alleged that when a month ago somebody expressed surprise to M. Gambetta that he should be anxious to send M. Jules Favre to the London Conference, Gambetta replied, "I care nothing for the Conference under the circumstances, but I want to get Jules Favre out of Paris." Gambetta then believed that Trochu had no thought of capitulation, and that Jules Favre was his most influential ally.

It is stated from Versailles that Menotti Garibaldi has written to General Manteuffel, stating that the colour of the 61st Regiment was found under a pile of dead bodies. The colour must have been defended with great bravery. This step of Garibaldi has made a good impression at the Prussian headquarters.

The Pope has offered, for the second time, his mediation to France, in a letter addressed a short time back to the Archbishop of Tours, who immediately communicated the offer to the Government of the National Defence. His Holiness at the same time wrote to the King of Prussia. It is not known

in what fashion this mediation was received by the belligerents.

Smallpox is raging in the Northern Department, especially in Lille, where the deaths are fifty a-day.

The total number of French subjects at present under German administration is about ten millions and a quarter.

A letter from the new seat of Government says that neither at Bordeaux nor at Toulouse are any military toys to be found in the shops.

Active preparations are being made in the Palais Royal, which is designated as the future residence of M. Thiers.

The only Paris newspapers that do not approve the choice of M. Thiers as the chief of the Government and M. Grévy as President of the Assembly, are those edited by M. Henri Rochefort and M. Felix Pyat.

A telegram from "Londerneau, Feb. 19," states:—"A terrible epidemic has broken out here amongst the cattle intended for the revictualling of Paris. About one hundred die daily, and it is stated at least 3,000 are affected more or less."

The Paris *Patrie* says that as soon as peace is restored a bill will be submitted to the National Assembly for the organisation of a provisional army comprising the elements of the class of 1871. The bill will further propose to disband the present armies, and to appoint a commission for studying a definite system of military organisation for the future.

Messrs. Hurst and Blackett are preparing for early publication Mr. Labouchere's "Diary of a Besieged Resident in Paris." The volume will contain many letters that have not yet appeared, some of which were picked up at sea, and others found in balloons which had descended in various parts of Europe.

The Prussian Diet was closed on Friday.

M. Thiers was elected to the National Assembly by nineteen constituencies.

The *Echo du Parlement* says the Count de Chambord has arrived at Brussels.

Prince Frederick Charles is to be appointed Generalissimo of the entire German Imperial Army, in return for his distinguished services during the war.

A correspondent of the *Daily News* says that in Paris the Reds triumphed by a large majority, having obtained 150,000 votes, while the Moderate Republicans had 45,000, and the Orleanists, Legitimists, and Catholics only 55,000 amongst them. More than half the electors abstained from voting.

It is believed in military circles that the command of the German troops holding Alsace and Lorraine, with the Governorship of those provinces, will be entrusted to General von Manteuffel.

On leaving Marseilles for Capri, Garibaldi made a speech urging Frenchmen to have confidence. "It is especially now," he said, "that you should redouble your efforts. Whatever may be your present misfortunes, France will still be France, and will again become a great nation—the leader of peoples."

Menotti Garibaldi has the provisional command of the Army of the Vosges. He and his brother Ricciotti are at Chalons-sur-Saône.

The number of Germans expelled from France is said to amount to about 120,000. The average indemnity for direct losses is calculated at 3,000*fr.* a head, which produces the sum of 360,000,000*fr.*

The Paris Jockey Club and the Club of the Rue Royale have passed resolutions that in future the fact of a candidate for admission being of Prussian nationality would disqualify him for membership of either club.

The Berlin papers regard the transfer of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg to Germany as merely a question of time. The *Cologne Gazette* says that the Zollverein is indispensable to Luxembourg, and yet it cannot remain a member without joining the German Empire. Sooner or later it must choose between leaving the Zollverein and incorporation with Prussia, and it may be as well to prefer the latter alternative at once.

The *Standard* says:—"We are informed that the health of the Emperor of Germany is such as to lead to grave anticipations. He is said to be regularly breaking up."

Petitions from Savoy beseech the German Government to constitute that province an independent and neutralised country. They will, of course, not be attended to.

According to the Paris *Gloche*, General Chanzy, during his visit to Paris, spoke some plain truths respecting the state of the French armies in the field. His opinion, says this journal, is that France must postpone her revenge till the population is unanimous and the troops are animated by a better spirit.

EXTRACTS FROM CORRESPONDENCE.

THE REPRESENTATION OF PARIS IN THE ASSEMBLY.—A Paris correspondent of the *Pall Mall* thus describes the characteristics of some of the persons elected to represent that city in the National Assembly:—"M. Louis Blanc, as in 1848, heads the poll. There are some good returns in the list, some wheat among the tares, much more, indeed, than the ultras anticipated. M. Louis Blanc may turn out an excellent member, if he will only speak as he wrote when in England. Victor Hugo may disappoint his admirers when he finds himself at Bordeaux restored to his natural element. Garibaldi will probably be objected to, although forcibly made a French subject when Nice was pocketed. M. Edgar Quinet, who is a fine writer, may sober down in office. Vice-Admiral Saisset is one of the most popular defenders of Paris. Delescluze, editor of the *Réveil*, is ill, and not likely to prove troublesome. Schoelcher is an old colonel of

National Guard artillery, *hors de service*. Félix Pyat, of the *Vengeur*, is a man of '48, and a person of extreme violence. M. Henri Martin is a scholar and historian. Admiral Pothuan distinguished himself at Gare aux Bonis and in the forts during the siege. M. Lookroy is a pamphleteer like Rochefort. Gambon allowed his calf to be seized under the régime of the late tyrant sooner than pay his taxes. Dorian is the most popular Minister of the Provisional Government, and would have accepted the Presidency of the Republic had the movement of the 31st of October succeeded. Ranc is a Republican and friend of Gambetta. Malon is, or was, a worker in mother-of-pearl till he took to politics; he stammers, and his popularity is unaccountable. Bréton is another Republican, and so are the five gentlemen who follow M. Thiers. Greppo was arrested on the 2nd of December, with other deputies. General Frébault is an officer of marine artillery who was here through the siege. Clemenceau is a maire of Paris; Floquet one of the lawyers who appeared against Prince Peter Bonaparte at Tours. Littré is the Comptist academician. Arnaud is a maire of the same red shade as Clemenceau, but a clever administrator. M. Léon Say is the well-known writer on political economy and finance in the *Débats*. Razoua is an ultra of the ultras. Adam was Prefect of Police after Count Kératry, and is the husband of a charming writer. Jean Baptist Millière is a socialist of talent—lean, spectral, and rather slanderous. Farcy built a gunboat, which turned over going round to Havre from Cherbourg, with a big gun that broke loose, and then the craft righted. He commanded a boat on the Seine during the siege until the Government disarmed his gunboat and made a martyr of him."

FRIGHTFUL SCENES IN THE JURA.—Herr von Wiedede, of the *Cologne Gazette*, describing an excursion he made from Belfort to Pontarlier, says:—"Heaps of forsaken corpses mouldered away among the bushes and in the ditches by the high road. Not far from Montbéliard a doctor and I found eight Frenchmen dead in one house, and already in an advanced stage of decomposition. Among them lay a wounded man still alive, and who cried out for help in a lamentable voice. We took him out with some difficulty and laid him in the open air. He was a little man, scarcely seven years of age, a student at Avignon. A Prussian grenade had torn his two legs below the knees. He had remained in that state seven whole days without being attended to, without water, and entangled among all those corpses. He had wrapped up his wounds in the rags of his uniform, and the cold had stopped the hemorrhage. He had crawled up to his companions, and had taken bits of biscuits out of their pockets, which sufficed for his subsistence; he had slaked his burning thirst by drinking the great flakes of snow which fell in at the window. He had lived thus for a week. The unhappy man has been taken to Switzerland, and the doctor thinks he will live. Horseflesh is now the principal food of the inhabitants of the country; and I have myself seen a bevy of famished women throw themselves upon a dead horse like a pack of wolves, and tearing it with all sorts of instruments, swallow morsels quite raw. I have even been told—but I do not vouch for the truth of this—that the unfortunate people have eaten human flesh, taken from the remains of the dead soldiers. This is the eighth campaign I have been through, but neither in Algeria, nor in Italy, nor in Bohemia, not even in Schleswig, have I seen sights so horrible."

M. ERCKMANN AT HOME.—Mr. S. J. Capper, the agent of the Society of Friends, writing from Nancy, February 7, corrects some misstatements relative to the views expressed by M. Erckmann to an English correspondent:—"Not being able to get a train from Lutzelburg until this morning, I was only too glad to spend the evening in M. Erckmann's company at the Café Lobau. He then assured me, and his statement was attested by several witnesses I have mentioned, that what he said was simply this:—'That he hoped and believed that Alsace and Lorraine would remain French; that he would regard it as a terrible misfortune if they did not, but rather than that they should become German, he should prefer for them to be neutralised. That it was an utter mistake to suppose that he said he feared a conflict and a separation between the two races in France. 'I could not have been guilty of such an absurdity,' said he, 'when every one knows that France is the most homogeneous of nations. There are, no doubt, two races—Frank in the north, Celtic in the south—but, as I am Frenchman before being an Alsatian, so they are Frenchmen before being Celts and Franks.' The unhappy simile between the condition of France in the future and that of Spain in the past, employed by the German officer at Metz, is used with terrible meaning by the French. I remind them that between the history of the French occupation of Spain and the German occupation of France there is a large element of difference. There was a 'thin red line' to support the Spanish patriots, and a clear, calm, indomitable man, evolving plans to hurl the conqueror of Europe from his throne from behind the lines of Torres Vedras. This the French admit, but they do not the less believe that if once the war becomes a war à outrance they will be successful in the end in driving the German hosts in hideous ruin back over the Rhine. A man like M. Erckmann, who has been preaching peace and Republicanism all his life, and who knows that the latter cannot long subsist without the former, but from whose intensely French point of view the cessation of the disputed provinces is

an unqualified disaster for themselves, for France, and for Europe, looks with horror to what he fears the future will bring forth. As during my stay at Phaleburg I have been *déjeunant* and dining with the German commandant and officers, the contrast between their mode of thought and that of my French friends of the Café Lobau is very striking. I think I understand both their points of view so well, and sympathise so much with both, that my mind is filled with a feeling of horror at the dreadful sufferings which await both the French and the German nations unless they can come to terms. Equality seems to me the strong point of French society. Fraternity may exist; it has never seemed very conspicuous to me in France; and liberty Frenchmen themselves admit they do not yet know the value of. But equality does exist, in a sense in my opinion unknown either in England or in Germany."

MISCELLANEOUS.

RUSSIA AND THE WAR.—The following is an extract of a letter from Moscow in the *Manchester Examiner*:—"The news of the fall of Paris has been received here like a national calamity. It was a perfect study to watch the faces of the *habitués* in the public coffee-houses when the telegram first arrived; some clenching their hands in silent rage, some growling anathemas against the 'cursed Germans,' and others rushing away as if trying to escape from the recollection of what they had seen. It was like a revival of the great burst of excitement that shook the nation when the first obscure tidings of the Alma came creeping northward in October, 1854. The grief and indignation at St. Petersburg (if I may rely upon the testimony of an official friend of mine, who has just arrived thence) have been even more marked than in Moscow; and the same informant warns me to expect a speedy change in the Germanising policy hitherto pursued by the Russian Government. The prevalent disfavour to Prussia has shown itself in rather a curious way both here and in St. Petersburg. In several of the Government schools the German students have been mobbed and ill-treated by their fellow-pupils, and German burgesses have on more than one occasion been hooted and insulted by the Russian workmen. At present one hears quoted on every side, with manifest exultation, the threat of the Prince Imperial 'to drive all the *kolbasniks* (sausage-sellers) out of the country if he should ever come to the throne,' and the appointment of Baron Lieven (the German curator of the University) to supersede Prince Dolgoroukoff in the governorship of Moscow has excited general discontent."

THE BLACK SEA CONFERENCE.—A special telegram from Berlin states that the Powers of the Conference have agreed to open the Black Sea to foreign men-of-war, and also to authorise the Porte to admit into the Dardanelles armed vessels of all States, Russia and Roumania alone excepted. Russia does not object to this, but Turkey hesitates to sanction an arrangement restricting her sovereignty.

AT METZ.

[Some of the delegates sent by the Society of Friends to arrange for the relief of the non-combatant sufferers in the districts around Metz, have themselves suffered severely from the outbreak of smallpox and other complaints. One lady, who went to nurse her brother, took the infection, and died after a brief illness. She is buried in the cemetery at Metz.]

At Metz, when the year was dying 'neath winter's severest frown,
The heroes of peace were lying by the pestilence stricken down;
In the midst of the glorious battle they were fighting with want and woe,
The Pest, War's stealthy follower, struck them down with its unseen blow.

Long and weary the days of watching, for the sickness was sharp and sore,
And for one of the War-fiend's victims the sorrows of earth are o'er.
Far from her home she aleepeth, with thy sky, O France! above,
May her grave for ever bind us in the holy bonds of love!

Thank God! that Peace hath heroes to their captain brave and true,
"To the rear with the sick and wounded, and form your ranks anew!"
So fresh soldiers caught the weapons as they fell from the nerveless hand,
And the fight with Famine never ceased in the desolated land.

Let the new-made Kaiser proudly on his standards write the name
Of the fields where his legions conquered with cannon, sword, and flame;
Our heroes shall win a guerdon nobler than earth can give,
He hath bidden his brethren perish—our soldiers bid them live.

They will sing in the dim old churches *Te Deum* loud and grand,
And give thanks for the foemen slaughtered, and the re-stolen slips of land;
From the lips of our brave knights-errant shall sweeter thanksgivings rise,
For solace given to broken hearts, and tears wiped from streaming eyes.

E. B. P.

Foreign and Colonial.

UNITED STATES.

The American press, regardless of politics, generally approve the recent negotiations with Great Britain, and express a hope and belief that they will result in the obliteration of the past discords, and the establishment of lasting friendly relations between the two countries. The prominent journals deprecate the recent public ovations, and the Congressional resolution of welcome to O'Donovan Rossa and other Fenians, as untimely.

A New York telegram says that:—"Sir John Rose sailed in the Algeria, for England, on the 15th. Great regret was expressed because of his resignation of his place on the joint Commission, as his intimate relations with both countries and the confidence reposed in his moderate views rendered his appointment peculiarly acceptable. His reasons for retiring are understood to be apprehension lest his personal and business relations might conflict with the proceedings of the Commission."

Several journals of New York make the absurd assertion that a proposal has been made for the purchase by the United States of all the British North American colonies, which will constitute the prominent feature of the deliberations of the High Joint Commission.

CANADA.

The Dominion Parliament opened on Thursday. The Governor-General congratulated the House upon the auspicious circumstances of the country, and spoke in high terms of the gallant manner in which the Fenian invasion had been suppressed, and the successful result of the Manitoba expedition. He anticipated a career of peace and prosperity for that province, and hoped the terms of admission of British Columbia would be acceptable to the Parliament, and that the boundaries of Canada would at an early day be extended from the Atlantic to the Pacific Oceans. Railway communication with the new provinces was indispensable, and the settlement of the north-west frontier should be prompted by liberty of the land policy; and he hoped the Fishery question would be satisfactorily adjusted by a high commission. Canada urges no demand beyond what she is entitled to by treaties and by the law of nations, and has only sought to maintain the rights of her people fairly and firmly, and in a considerate, friendly spirit. He suggested the assimilation of provincial currencies, a new electoral law, and other domestic reforms; and believed that the satisfactory state of the revenue would enable the Government to diminish the taxation, notwithstanding the extensive public improvements contemplated.

The Assembly will discuss the Fishery Question before the departure of the Prime Minister for Washington. A strong feeling was expressed in the debate on the Address against making any concession of international rights. And a Toronto telegram of Feb. 18 says:—"The Assembly of Nova Scotia has passed a resolution protesting against any concession of the fishery rights secured by treaty without the consent of the people of Nova Scotia."

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

The King of Sweden has been seriously ill, but is now better.

The report that Francois d'Assis, the husband of the ex-Queen Isabella, has offered to take the oath of allegiance to King Amadeus, is confirmed.

Mr. R. W. Emerson is delivering a course of eighteen lectures "On the Natural History of the Intellect," at Harvard University.

THE MASSACRE AT MARATHON.—Telegrams from Athens announce that the Court of Appeal has dismissed the case against Mr. Noel, thus quashing further proceedings.

ATTEMPTED ASSASSINATION IN MADRID.—A telegram from Madrid says:—"President Zorilla and a friend named Hernandez, when returning home this morning, were fired at by two assassins. The balls missed and entered a wall. The assassins escaped, leaving a blunderbuss behind."

EXPULSION OF THE JESUITS FROM ITALY.—A telegram from Florence says that an additional proposal to be embodied in the bill for guaranteeing the position of the Pope has been signed by eighteen Deputies, and was presented on Thursday to the Chamber. Its object is to effect the expulsion of the Jesuits from the whole of the Italian territory.

AUSTRALIA.—Advices from Melbourne are to Feb. 1. The commissioners on the question of effecting a federation of the Australian Colonies have submitted a proposition, according to which, in case of confederation, Australia would have the right to remain neutral in the event of England being involved in war. This idea is generally condemned here. Her Majesty's ship Galatea, with the Duke of Edinburgh on board, is at the Falkland Isles.

ANTI-PAPAL DEMONSTRATION IN ROME.—Disorderly manifestations have taken place at Rome, in reply to the demonstrations in Belgium in sympathy with the Pope. The windows of the residence of the Belgian Ambassador have been smashed by the populace. It is rumoured that the Pope again entertains the project of taking up his residence in Belgium.

MILITARY PREPARATIONS IN ITALY.—A Florence letter speaks of unusual energy in making military preparations. A camp has been ordered at Somma, a thing unusual at this time of the year. The experiments with Krupp's cannons are going on at a great rate, and the Turin Arsenal is busily engaged manufacturing mitrailleuses. Besides this the whole fleet is being armed and equipped, and the command to

be given to Admiral del Carretto, and though it is stated that the vessels are only getting ready in case the Tunis question should not be settled before the end of the month, people make strange conjectures as to their more probable and perhaps not distant mission.

THE POPE AND THE CROWN PRINCE OF ITALY.—A letter from Rome says:—"Two Sundays since Prince Humbert and the Princess Margaret wished to go publicly to mass at St. Peter's, and sent to apprise the canons of their design, not anticipating any objection. The canons, however, informed the Prince that they could not receive him publicly, and that his arrival at the cathedral in a public manner would be the signal for the choristers to leave the choir. The royal pair have therefore attended mass in the church of St. Agnes, in the Piazza Navona, where the service has been solemnised by their own chaplain. But they are amply compensated for the hostility of the clergy by the loyalty of the population, which manifests itself whenever they appear in the streets. Prince Doria has resigned the syndicate of Rome, alleging as the reason that his affairs obliged him to go to England; but the real motive is devotion to the Pope. There was a violent scene between him and Prince Humbert. It is extraordinary that people of all classes here still look upon the Italian annexation as only temporary, and believe the day is not distant when the Pope will have his own again. This keeps everything unsettled."

THE EDUCATION ACT.

LONDON SCHOOL BOARD.

At the meeting of the London School Board on Wednesday, Professor Huxley moved the appointment of a committee to consider a scheme of education to be adopted in the public elementary schools. Mr. Huxley said he held that no educational system in this country would be worthy the name of national unless it created a great educational ladder, the bottom of which should be in the gutter, and the top in the Universities. For the working classes he believed that what was called technical instruction should be provided. He did not suppose that the board would provide this; but everybody who had watched the current of public events must know that, sooner or later, it must come. With regard to the subject-matter of teaching, he believed there had been the Scylla of too little and the Charybdis of too much, and that in avoiding the one they ran the danger of falling into the other. It was a great mistake to suppose that English boys were stupid. It was a mistake very common among the schoolmaster class; and he offended one of those gentlemen very much one day by telling him that it was the schoolmasters who made the boys stupid by their system of education. He was of opinion that the finest intellects in the world were those of England and Italy, and he believed that anything that could be learned might be learned by an English boy. But to do that matters in school must be made pleasant, by teaching drawing and music. There was no kind of information or teaching in which children could be made to take so much interest as instruction in the first elements of physical science. He did not mean by that teaching the use of the globes and all that kind of abominable trash, but the relationship in which man stood to the universe. He put out of court, as being too advanced for children of tender age, everything but the most elementary notions of history. He did not think children understood history; none, but men did. He came lastly to the most important subject of all—the implanting in the minds of children and giving them reasons for the great laws of conduct in this world, and the primary one of religion and morality. He did not think such ideas should be trusted for their inculcation to the influence of home or that of the ministers of religion. Let those who wished to raise the superstructure build; but what that board could do was to insist on the foundation being effectually laid on which all superstructures might be eventually erected. Professor Huxley's statements underwent some criticism in the discussion which followed, but ultimately the motion was carried unanimously, and a committee was appointed.

On the motion of Mr. Charles Reed, M.P., the vice-chairman, it was resolved to issue a public notice that no application for the transfer of schools to the board could be entertained until the returns required by the Act of Parliament had been received and reported upon, and to urge the managers of schools in the meantime to relax no effort to maintain them in a state of efficient operation. There was, Mr. Reed said, a growing feeling, that ought to be at once checked, that, as a rate would shortly be made for the support of existing schools, subscriptions by the public were unnecessary. Such a feeling was most erroneous and unfortunate, for any rate that would at present be made would not nearly be commensurate to the requirements of the institutions.

The Sheffield School Board, at its fortnightly meeting on Thursday, unanimously affirmed the principle of compulsion. The attendance at school of all children between the ages of five and thirteen years will be enforced, in accordance with the provisions of the Education Act, and a committee was appointed to report the best means of carrying this resolution into effect.

KETTERING.—The town of Kettering has recently been in a state of great excitement, in consequence of the desire of the Dissenters to procure the election of a school board, a measure strongly resisted by the

Church party, headed by the rector, the Rev. H. Lindsay, on the ground that the existing school arrangements were sufficient for the wants of the town. The final public meeting of the Dissenters was held on Friday evening the 10th inst., the eve of the poll. Mr. William Toller presided. The Rev. Thomas Toller moved that in the opinion of this meeting it is desirable that the householders shall be able to maintain a constant supervision over the education of the young, and that supervision can be maintained only by the appointment of a school board under the provisions of the new Education Act. The motion was seconded by Mr. J. T. Stookburn, who remarked that they should win the battle the 100% promised by him towards placing the British schools in a state of efficiency, should be devoted to providing a public recreation ground for the inhabitants of the town, if others would assist. The resolution was supported by the Rev. Iden Payne, of Northampton, in an eloquent speech of an hour's duration, in the delivery of which he was repeatedly applauded. The Rev. Thomas Lee next gave an interesting account of the state of education in Jamaica. The resolution was carried unanimously. The poll of the householders of the parish took place on Saturday, the 11th inst., and on the following Monday the declaration was made. The result was that 648 votes were against, and 609 votes in favour of a board. A remarkably large proportion of electors voted. 1,448 were eligible; of these 1,257 voted; only 191 remaining neutral. The contest is to be renewed at the earliest possible opportunity.

There are still several School Board elections pending in the West of England. In the parish of St. Thomas, situate within the Parliamentary bounds of Exeter, eleven candidates have been nominated for five seats. Among the nominees is Miss Temple, sister of the Bishop of Exeter, who was recently nominated for the Exeter School Board, but withdrew in consequence of an informality in the nomination. Miss Temple's election on the St. Thomas's Board is considered very probable. At Barnstaple the Board will be constituted as follows:—Rev. G. J. Wallis, Captain Mackenzie, and Messrs. Miller and Hall (Churchmen), and Messrs. Lauder, Gappey, and Hills (Nonconformists). The Torrington School Board election was held on Thursday. Six candidates had been nominated for five seats. The contest resulted in a victory for the Liberal party, who returned two Nonconformists and one Liberal Churchman. The first meetings of the Exeter, Plymouth, and Totnes Boards have been held, and the chairmen and vice-chairmen appointed. At Exeter, Mr. W. Barnes, banker, has been chosen chairman of the Board, and Mr. T. Andrews vice-chairman. Mr. R. C. Serpell has been elected chairman of the Plymouth Board.

A circular has been issued by the National Education League, in which the most uncompromising opposition is threatened against any proposed increase of Parliamentary grants to denominational schools. It is contended by the League that such a policy as that shadowed forth last summer by Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Forster will give rise to consequences threatening the gravest dangers to the cause of religious liberty and national education. It will perpetuate a system which, even by the admission of its advocates, has failed to meet the wants of the country, or to afford education really worthy of the name. It will also prevent the general formation of School Boards, and the consequent management of schools by the elected representatives of the ratepayers. The various branches are urged to express their opinions upon this important matter.

THE PAYMENT OF SCHOOL FEES.

The following memorial of managers and friends of Nonconformist day-schools in Birmingham, was presented to the members of the Birmingham School Board on Wednesday:—

The managers and friend of Nonconformist day-schools present at a conference held in Carr's-lane Lecture-room on the evening of February 7, and convened by the Central Nonconformist Committee, respectfully submit to the School Board the very strong objections they entertain to the proposal now under discussion at the board for the payment out of the rates of the school fees of poor children attending denominational schools. There can be no difference of opinion among the inhabitants of the borough as to the propriety of providing for the free education of children whose parents are unable to pay school fees; but your memorialists firmly protest against the resolution moved by the Rev. F. S. Dale, M.A., under which the rates would be used for the support of Roman Catholic, Episcopalian, and other denominational schools. The plea that the money would be voted for the relief of the parents, and not in aid of the school funds, cannot be sustained. The proposal of the Rev. F. S. Dale is a proposal to vote a portion of the rates to the managers of denominational schools to enable them to retain the free scholars who are now attending their schools, and to receive additional free scholars. Should this course be adopted, it will be regarded by a large number of ratepayers as a serious violation of the principles of religious liberty, and an obstacle to the development of an unsectarian system of elementary education in the borough. There is very little doubt in the minds of your memorialists that the subscribers to Nonconformist day-schools will direct their managers to decline to receive school fees out of funds compulsorily levied on the ratepayers. It is earnestly hoped that the board will make arrangements for the education of indigent children in schools under its own arrangement, and free from sectarian teaching and influence, and will refuse to apply the rates to augment the incomes of sectarian schools.

Signed, on behalf of the memorialists,
HENRY MANTON, Chairman.
Carr's-lane Lecture-room, Feb. 7.

Literature.

WALKS IN ROME.*

This is not a mere guide book, though it will admirably serve all the purposes of a guide-book. It is a loving and discriminating account of Rome as it is at the present day, with reminiscences of the past clustered round the accounts of the most celebrated places, and extracts from famous books of travel liberally interspersed. The arrangement is such as will suit the stranger, and all needful assistance as to hotels, expenses, &c., &c., is given in a very condensed and handy form. These, indeed, are the only guide-book common-places which we find here. For the rest, we discover in every page that the writer is a scholar, a man of taste, and an enthusiastic antiquarian. Mr. Hare, it appears, has resided in Rome for many years, and has gone through this work in no perfunctory spirit. He is in love with the objects of interest he has to describe and skilfully lights up his pages with apt quotations or references to classical lore.

And what city in the world is richer than Rome in all that appeals to the sentiment which makes men undertake tedious and even perilous journeys to witness scenes associated with great deeds? The Capitol with its tower, the Aventine with sites of temples, the Palatine with palaces, the Coliseum with its ruins, the Forum, the Appian Way, the Catacombs with their Christian inscriptions, the yellow Tiber, and the glorious bridges, each with its special story of olden days. And then there is the Campagna, with its ceaseless fall and swell; the multitude of palaces with their gardens, their pictures, their statues, all encircled with associations, each of which would have given *eclat* to a separate city; and, not least in the list for curious far-stretching historic relations, the Ghetto, with its dingy crowds of Jews, all busy with their wares or their observances.

Mr. Hare's large reading and varied information admirably balances and steadies his enthusiasm. Now he is intent on recording the picture of a scene in the days of old Rome, when men met in the Forum and discussed the news from the battle-field; anon he is piquantly describing the Catacombs, and enlisting his readers' interest in the awful struggles and sufferings of the early Christians. And Rome, with all its classic interest, pales before no other city in its Christian associations. St. Paul taught in it, though a prisoner; and the history of Christianity for several centuries finds its centre in Rome. Then there is the romance of the Popedom, that gives life to its mediæval and modern commonplace; for just as the festas give colour and life to the Roman year, so do the glories and ambitions of the Vatican to its later history.

Speaking of the deepening impression made on one by familiarity with these scenes, Mr. Hare says:—

"From the experience of many years the writer can truly say that the more intimately these scenes become known, the more deeply they become engraven upon the inmost affections. It is not a hurried visit to the Coliseum, with guide-book and cicerone, which will enable one to drink in the fulness of its beauty; but a long and familiar friendship with its solemn walls, in the ever-varying grandeur of golden sunlight and grey shadow—till, after many days' companionship, its stones become dear as those of no other building can be; and it is not a rapid inspection of the huge, cheerless basilicas and churches, with their gaudy marbles and gilded ceilings, and ill-suited monuments, which arouses your sympathy; but the long investigation of their precious fragments of ancient cloister and sculptured fountain—of mouldering fresco and mediæval tomb—of mosaic-crowned gateway and palm-shadowed garden—and the gradually-acquired knowledge of the wondrous story which elings around each of these ancient things, and which tells how each has a motive and a meaning entirely unsuspected and unseen by the passing eye."

Evidently enough this is the spirit in which Mr. Hare has proceeded—patient exercise of eye and joy in drinking in the spirit of these mighty scenes, as he called to memory the great things which had been done amidst them or were associated with them.

The account of the Ghetto is very condensed and interesting—more so than we have found it elsewhere. Mr. Hare tells, with singular clearness, how the first Jewish slaves were brought to Rome by Pompey the Great, after he had taken Jerusalem and forcibly entered the holy of holies; how, for centuries after this, they were treated with respect and became wealthy; how, under Caligula, they met with persecution because they would not accord him divine honours; how, afterwards, they were heavily taxed and forced to work in the building of the Coliseum; how, under Vespasian and Domitian, they were doomed to poverty and subjection; how, under the earlier Popes, they rose in spite of all obstacles to positions of

trust and eminence; and how the fanatical Pope Paul IV. shut them up in the Ghetto. Their strange changes of fortune in Rome looks like a stern fulfilment of the prophecies regarding them. These remarkable facts about the Ghetto may be read with some interest:—

"The lower streets of the Ghetto, especially the Fiumara, which is nearest to the bank of the Tiber, are annually overflowed during the spring rains and melting of the mountain snows, which is productive of great misery and distress. Yet, in spite of this, and of the teeming population crowded into its narrow alleys, the mortality was less here during the cholera than in any other part of Rome, and malaria is unknown here, a freedom from disease which may perhaps be attributed to the Jewish custom of white-washing their dwellings at every festival. There is no Jewish hospital; if the Jews go to an ordinary hospital they must submit to a crucifix being hung over their beds. It is remarkable that the very centre of the Jewish settlement should be the Portico of Octavia, in which Vespasian and Titus celebrated their triumph after the fall of Jerusalem. Here and there in the narrow alleys the seven-branched candlesticks may be seen carved on the house walls, a 'yet living symbol of the Jewish religion.'"

"Everything may be obtained in the Ghetto: precious stones, lace, furniture of all kinds, rich embroidery from Algiers and Constantinople, striped stuff from Spain—but all is concealed under cover. 'Cosa cerate,' the Jew shopkeepers hiss at you as you thread their narrow alleys, and try to entice you in to bargain with them. The same article is often passed on by mutual arrangement from shop to shop, and meets you wherever you go. On Friday evening all shops are shut, and bread is baked for the Sabbath, all merchandise is removed, and the men go to the synagogue, and wish each other 'a good Sabbath' on their return."

Mr. Hare thus speaks of the climate of Rome, and his words may remove some false impressions on that point:—

"The climate of Rome is very variable. If the *sirocco* blows, it is mild and very relaxing; but the winters are more apt to be subject to the severe cold of the *tramontana*, which requires even greater precaution and care than that of an English winter. Nothing can be more mistaken than the impression that those who go to Italy are sure to find there a mild and congenial temperature. The climate of Rome has been subject to severity, even from the earliest times of its history. Dionysius speaks of one year in the times of the Republic when the snow at Rome lay seven feet deep, and many men and cattle died of the cold. Another year, Livy tells that the snow lay for forty days, trees perished, and cattle died of hunger. Present times are an improvement on these. Snow seldom lies upon the ground for many days together, and the beautiful fountains of the city are only hung with icicles long enough to allow the photographers to represent them thus; but still the climate is not to be trifled with, and violent transitions from the hot sunshine to the cold shade of the streets often prove fatal. 'No one but dogs and Englishmen,' say the Romans, 'ever walk in the sun.'"

Any one going to Rome could not do better than procure this work before starting, and read it carefully on the way; whilst, to the home-keeping portion of the population, it will suffice to bring both the Rome of the present and the Rome of the past more vividly before their mental eye than perhaps any other work. It is written in a clear, elegant, and masterly style, and is, perhaps, as complete as a work of the kind could be made. But it is never heavy; and that is what few books of the kind are not sometimes, and what too many of them are very often.

RECORDS OF THE WAR.*

The war, which stands alone in so many respects, promises to be equally remarkable both in the extent and quality of its literature. Nothing more clearly indicates the wonderful progress made by our newspapers even since the time of the Crimean war, than the manner in which they have given us intelligence so early, so ample, so full of minute detail, and often written in a style so graphic and powerful as to secure for the writers a considerable literary reputation. Nor is it only the London papers which have thus vied with each other in the endeavour to secure first-class correspondents, for several of the best provincial journals have had their own writers at the seat of war, and some of them have won no little credit by their success in obtaining early and accurate information, or by their skill in the delineation of the scenes they witnessed. Among these the correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian*, Mr. G. T. Robinson, is one of the most conspicuous, not only because of the high qualities which fitted him so well for the post he had to occupy, but also because of the special circumstances under which he was detained as a prisoner in Metz during the whole of the siege, and was thus able to give an account of life in the besieged city during its terrible tribulation. His letters are now republished in a handsome volume which at first sight suggests the question to what will the history of the war itself extend if

* *The Fall of Metz.* By G. T. ROBERTSON, Special Correspondent of the *Manchester Guardian*. London: Bradbury, Evans and Co.

What I saw of the War at the Battles of Spicheren, Gorze, and Gravelotte. By the Hon. C. A. WINN. London: W. Blackwood and Sons.

the narrative of a single episode occupies a large octavo like this, and if the events of months are to be chronicled in this fashion, what will history itself become? However, such a feeling disappears as we get into the book. Our children probably will not care to go so minutely into the story of 1870, but for us, at all events, it has so much interest that few will be unwilling to follow Mr. Robinson through the records of those weary months of suffering and suspense, and we feel sure that there are none who will not find him a pleasant and instructive companion. He was clearly the man for his work, fond of adventure, able to adapt himself to any emergency, fertile in expedient, with eyes always open, and with the art of describing effectively what he knew so well how to observe.

Mr. Winn, whose book relates the story of the same events as the earlier portion of Mr. Robinson's, was not a newspaper correspondent, but simply a student of war on the battle-field of the Moselle. He had the good fortune to secure, though with considerable difficulty, a pass from General Goeben to accompany the Prussian army, and the preliminary difficulty removed, was admitted to terms of friendly intercourse with many of the officers, and so had the opportunity of making himself familiar with their habits and modes of thought, and of arriving at their ideas as to the movements of the campaign. We have the advantage, therefore, up to the time of the investment of Metz, of having an account of the campaign from the opposite sides, and are thus able to arrive at a correct estimate of the facts. Mr. Winn has not, perhaps, the perfect *savoir faire* or the mastery of style of professional writers, but he writes with great ease and some elegance, and from the peculiarity of his position is able to introduce some little incidents which have not been given to us by the newspapers. This book, indeed, is a simple and attractive story of his personal adventures, with accounts of the friends he made, both in the army and among the peasantry among whom he was thrown.

It is these individual experiences, which we find more or less in both these volumes, which form the great charm and indeed constitute no small part of their value. Mere general statements, for example, as to the cruelties of the war, the devastation it spreads far and wide on its track, the rivers of blood it sheds, have often been made, and, alas! made without producing much impression. But these photographs, so sharply drawn, so clear, so life-like, of scenes of which the writers have themselves been eye-witnesses, can hardly be thus lightly dismissed. They dwell in the memory, and they produce much the same effect which they appear to have had on those who saw and depicted them. Frequently do both these writers pause in their narrative to point at the moral, to exhibit war in its naked deformity, stripped of that false colouring too often thrown around it, to tell us at what cost the "glory" is purchased. Their accounts would form most instructive and wholesome reading for those who have been drinking in the spirit of our fire-eating newspapers, and especially for those who have imbibed the notion of the journal which has been teaching that, even if all hope of success has gone—and the strong probability is that the continuance of war means only defeats and disasters, ending at last in a peace whose terms each successive defeat has made more onerous—still a nation should fight for "honour's sake." The harrowing details here given would at least help them to realise what this fighting, so easy to talk or write about, actually means. Unfortunately, in much that is written there is an utter ignoring of facts. A nation engaged in a bloody and desperate war is compared to a woman struggling for her honour in opposition to resistless force, and we are asked to extend to the former the approval we bestow on the latter. It is forgotten that the woman really defends herself, and what suffering or danger there is is her own. In the case of the nation, it is a few ruling spirits, who send out hosts of ignorant and innocent people to be butchered for the sake of honour. We do not mean to say that people never make war, but we do say that if every man who votes for war was, in consequence of his vote, bound to be a soldier, we should have a stronger guarantee for peace than the world has ever yet enjoyed. As we cannot have this, yet it is something that the true character of war should be brought out as it is in these volumes. "Never," says Mr. Robinson at the close of one of his powerful descriptions of the incidental misery induced by war, "did the 'most hideous idol of the most savage people' receive a more unholy sacrifice than this which 'we, who pride ourselves on being civilised and Christianised, offer up to this worse than Jugernaut—Glory; or shall we call it by the more euphonious name—Honour.'"

The descriptions of the sanguinary battles

* *Walks in Rome.* By AUGUSTUS J. C. HARE. In two volumes. (Strahan and Co.)

preceding the blockade of Metz, though told by two men seeing them from opposite sides, are in essential agreement. In both it is evident that bad generalship indeterminate aims, blundering tactics, and insufficient preparation, were the causes of the French defeats. In both, too, it is clear that from the first the Prussians had a decided advantage, though in the battle of the 16th all that they did was to check Bazaine's movements at frightful cost to themselves; and in both we see that their success might have been much more complete had they understood the actual condition of the enemy. Mr. Winn, who of course knew more of the Prussian tactics, is more lavish in his praises of their military skill. Mr. Robinson reflects more severely on the waste of life, especially in the battle of Gravelotte. Anything more appalling than the story of that fight as told by him, it is not easy to conceive. Bazaine had chosen a position which, though so strong as to appear impregnable, was really of no more value to him than others which he could have secured without fighting at all; and the attack upon it by the Germans was conducted in a style as blundering as his own, for instead of taking him on the flank they simply forced thousands upon thousands on his entrenched front, and carried at last by sheer force of numbers. The result of such blunders, be it remembered, was the sacrifice of thousands of lives for no purpose whatever. "Thus terminated," says Mr. Robinson, in pregnant words, "that murderous, needless day of St. Privat, or, as the Prussians call it, Gravelotte,—a day nothing could have converted into a useful victory for the French, and one which was only made into a Prussian 'one by wholesale slaughter.'" On Bazaine rests the responsibility of forcing a perfectly useless battle. In order fully to understand it, however, it is necessary to supplement Mr. Robinson's account by that of Mr. Winn, from whom he will gain not only a more correct idea of the Prussian tactics, which may serve to modify at least his estimate of their strategy, but also illustrations of the gallantry and endurance for which that wonderful army is distinguished. At the same time, his narrative shows how nearly the victory had proved a defeat, owing to a panic that seized some of the troops, but of which the French were ignorant, or were unable to take advantage before the skill and daring of the officers and commanders, and not least of the King himself, rallied the fugitives. These pictures from the two camps afford us various illustrations of the mistakes committed or advantages lost on both sides by ignorance of the exact circumstances of their opponents;—but so it is always in war.

The more we know of the commanders and their forces, the less cause is there to wonder at the issue of the struggle. Mr. Winn's account of his Prussian experiences only serves to confirm the previous impression of the perfect organisation, the admirable discipline, and in general the moderation and humanity, as well courage and resolution, of the army. Mr. Robinson more than bears out the notions as to the condition of the French, the weakness in council and the feebleness in action, the defective state of all their departments, the selfishness and incapacity of the generals, the vaingloriousness and frivolity of the soldiers. He went to Metz with a firm belief that in military matters, at all events, things were done better in France than amongst us, but a little experience dispelled his illusion. No mismanagement could be more complete than that which he found everywhere around him. With some bitterness, fully warranted by the circumstances, he says on 17th of August, referring to the battle of Rezonville, "Many hundreds were slaughtered yesterday because the generals 'stopped to breakfast, many hundreds have 'died this morning because the doctors did.'" Bazaine may not have been a traitor, but the whole course of this narrative shows he was unfit for his post. He was an abler man than either of his brother Marshals, but he was not equal to the responsibility laid upon him. He hesitated where he ought to have acted, he halted between two opinions when nothing but prompt decision and resolute conduct were absolutely necessary to success. He allowed political considerations to influence his military proceedings, he thought more of the Empire than of France, and we fear it must be added, more of himself than of the Empire. It is quite possible that some of the judgments passed by Mr. Robinson need correction, that success was not so certainly within his reach as the Messins and their friends supposed, but there is enough to convict him of incapacity, intrigue, and selfishness, if not of treason. Whether Metz could have held out longer, is a question which it is not easy absolutely to decide. Mr. Robinson, however, gives us the view of an intelligent observer in the city, and his narrative affords grounds for the belief that

with a different commander a more resolute stand might have been made and the condition of France have worn another aspect from that it has to-day. But that is only what might be said of every incident in the struggle, and Mr. Robinson's most instructive and interesting book supplies us only with one more illustration of the curse which Cæsarism had brought upon France.

BRIEF NOTICES.

Spiritual Religion. Sermons on Christian Faith and Life. By JAS. DRUMMOND, B.A. (London: Longmans, Green and Co.) These are sermons by the Unitarian minister of Hampstead. They are characterised by a reverential tone and a beautiful Christian spirit; but they want grip. It may be a defect in our perspicacity, but we find it not easy to recall, notwithstanding a careful perusal of these sermons on the topic, what, in the judgment of Mr. Drummond, is "the Christian's distinctive faith." Most of the sermons are pleasant to read, and stimulating to the religious sensibilities; but there is scarcely any adequate discussion of the topics started. The discourses are hardly to be called strengthening. Partly this may result from their brevity; Mr. Drummond's style is not suggestive, nor are his single thoughts such as cast light around them, consequently he cannot be at once brief and full. Occasionally, we notice some inaccuracy in Mr. Drummond's thinking, as, for instance, the confusion of "morals" and "aesthetics" on page 94. The whole argument as to the superior religious value of poetry when compared with science, seems to us fallacious. A graver error is to be found on page 84, in the treatment of St. John's "picture of Christ." The distinction between men and Christ drawn in the first chapter of John's Gospel, says Mr. Drummond, is "one of pre-eminence." "Before Christ is introduced at all, we are told of men who received the Word, and thus owning the voice of God within them, had a higher 'than mortal birth.'" We have italicised the word "received;" Mr. Drummond does not quote John as affirming, not that Christ "received" the Word, but that "the Word was made flesh." There are some sermons which have given us unalloyed pleasure. From one on "The Nature of Revelation," we append a quotation:—"The view that revelation is simply an 'authoritative statement of facts or truths, is insufficient, because such a statement, however perfect, could not communicate the deepest knowledge. There are limits beyond which it cannot pass. It may tell us something of what God has done, of what He intends to do, of what He requires us to do; but Himself, His spirit, His character, the communion between us and Him, it cannot reveal. Words, in order to be intelligible, must represent thoughts or ideas in the mind; and unless their meaning be first revealed within, it is in vain that they are used. A document relating to 'spiritual conditions which you had never experienced, referring to feelings or emotions with which your heart had never thrilled, or describing the nearness of a love to which there was no response within, would be no revelation; it would either convey no meaning whatever to your mind, or induce you to form very erroneous conceptions of the subjects which it brought before you. The real nature of sin and of righteousness, of repentance and forgiveness, of justice, mercy, and holiness, must be revealed in our own inward experience, or they cannot be known at all. It is in vain that you reiterate that 'God is love,' if my terrified conscience and cruel temper shut out the very notion of love, and empty the word of all true meaning. The spirit of love must dawn upon our consciousness; no mere description will enable us to understand it; but, as soon as its light arises within, a revelation is made, and the spiritual mind apprehends what was hidden from intellect and sense. Thus it is that the wise and prudent may be grossly ignorant of that which is clear as day to many an unlettered heart. The most powerful intellect can only proceed upon the data which are furnished to it; and, if the deep things of God have never passed across the field of consciousness, it may speculate in vain as to their nature or requirements. A single glance of spiritual discernment would often necessitate the demolition of the most elaborately constructed schemes of theology; and, as 'long as our spirit is of the world, we may move round and round the temple of truth, but cannot enter its inner shrine.'"

Purpose and Passion, being, Pygmalion and other Poems. By KENINGALE ROBERT COOK, B.A. (London: Virtue and Co.) Mr. Cook has chosen some ambitious themes; and it is impossible to say that his treatment is worthy of them. "Pygmalion" for instance, is a frigid and intellectual rendering of a story that pre-eminently demands delicacy and passion. But Mr. Cook displays capabilities of higher work than any which this volume contains. Some of his simpler pieces are full of poetic feeling and lyrical movement. Beautiful lines are, however, too often marred by careless and unmusical ones. The following song seems to us more worthy of quotation than many of the longer poems:—

"Why wait, why wait in the gloom-bound gate,
When thy love is come,
And the life it hath fled that about thy head
Wove tangles wearisome?
Come to a choir that joy hath led,
Come hither, to love's breast and home.

How bright the barren land about,
With new bud bloom,
To be fairer yet as the steed doth set
His foot away from gloom,
New may-time and new morn have met,
New days to weave from a new loom.

I hear thy foot touch, stone by stone,
The long cold ways
Like a hushed song that flows along,
To lighten tedious days;
Ah, sweet! thy face should not be long,
Ere it declare its lingering May.

Sweet love, how bitter long the hours,
For my sheathed blade,
That might not slake its eager hate,
In breasts whose coward aid
Was cross and stole. So long to wait!
Yet love lived on spite cold words said."

At the Back of the North Wind. By GEORGE MACDONALD. (London: Strahan and Co.) "Oh! that will 'be jolly,'" said a rosy-cheeked girl of twelve years old, as we handed her the book to read, wondering at the same time whether the jolliness would continue as the pages were turned. A few hours after, in reply to an inquiry, Chubby-cheeks said, "Oh, I can't make it out, 'I can't see what it means, nor what it is about!'" That was just what we ourselves had experienced, but wondered whether a child's rapport with fairy-land would supply the key which we were unable to find. Very likely Mr. Macdonald would tell us that that is just it: that in fairy tales everything should be unintelligible, and nobody should be able to make it out. Perhaps so—but then, here in this book the north wind, and getting to the back of it does mean something, and is intended to convey a great moral lesson. Our only fault with the book is that the mystery has been a little overdone. There is some magnificent nonsense in it. There are some exquisite little bits of poetic conception. "Little Bo-peep" and "Little Boy Blue" are enlarged into splendid nursery rhymes, fully as unintelligible and rhythmical as the originals. Here are little boy angels on the other side of somewhere digging for stars by way of amusement, and polishing them by way of work; and along with all there is a charming tale about "Diamond the horse," and "Diamond the boy," and the life of a poor coachman who sinks into being a cabman, and then rises to be a coachman again. But after all we "can't make it out."

The Life of Sir Walter Scott. By the Rev. GEORGE GILFILLAN. (Edinburgh: Oliphant and Co.) How far the opinion of the publishers and author of this new life of Scott, that such a thing was needed, is correct, remains to be seen. Mr. Giffillan claims for his book a half-way position between the bulky ones of Lockhart and others and the smaller sketches which have from time to time appeared. We cannot say much for the book. There is nothing in it which those who know the life of the great novelist will much care for. And although we fail to find much of that "fine writing" for which Mr. Giffillan has earned a celebrity, we fail to find any peculiar excellencies of style which make the book more readable than its predecessors. There are many lines which indicate poverty and paltriness. Here is a specimen:—"It is pleasant to think of each period of Scott's history as linked with some spot of special natural loveliness. At Lasswade he commenced his real literary career; at Acheesiel his poetic genius culminated; and with Abbotsford connected the memory of his matchless fictions. Ever to such nests of nature may the winged fledglings of genius be traced. Wordsworth wrote best at Rydal Mount; Burns in Ellisland; and Byron among the giant pines of the 'forest of Bavena.'" Mr. Giffillan's estimate of Scott is that he is the greatest of novelists—"the master of the novel"—and for breadth of sympathy and similar qualities, does not hesitate to give him a place alongside of Shakespeare. Of the worth of such criticism there is no need to say a word.

Sketches in the House of Commons by a Silent Member. Nos. 1-6. (London: Provost and Co.) The writer tells us that this is his first instalment of a series of twenty sketches "intended to point out and to correct some of the annoyances which the House inflicts upon a silent member." The six sketches which we have here deal with Mr. Gladstone and Mr. Baxter as talkers and speech-makers—with Mr. Disraeli and the Conservative Party—Mr. Childers and the Admiralty—and with Cabinet Ministers generally. The book will interest a large number of readers. It is strictly impartial as far as party goes, and the writer is a very able man, looking at things from a standpoint of his own. He is very unsparing in his criticisms, and severe in his judgments, and is thoroughly acquainted with the House and the history of its parties and its chief men. We shall look with much interest for the remainder of the series.

Ready for Work. By W. H. GROSER. (Sunday-school Union.) This is a book for Sunday-school teachers, containing some valuable hints on the preparation of lessons, and a number of outline lessons of different kinds for the help of such teachers as do not feel themselves competent for such work, of whom we may imagine there must be many, and to whom this little book will be a valuable aid.

Till the Doctor Comes. By Dr. G. H. HOPK. (Tract Society.) This little book is a reprint, with corrections and additions, from the *Cottager and Artisan*. No household ought to be without it. It is made up of

simple but ample directions as to what to do in cases of emergency, such as fractures, bleedings, burns, cholera, dislocations, drowning, freezing, &c., &c. There are some things in it which every woman ought to be made to read.

Cassell's Book of Birds. Parts XI.—XIV. (London: Cassell, Petter and Galpin.) We would again call attention to this capital publication. Some of the engravings are full of life and vigour, and the letter-press is interesting and solidly valuable.

Music.

MR. BARNBY'S ORATORIO CONCERTS.

The first concert of this season in the series of Oratorio Concerts under the presidency of Mr. Barnby, was held this day week, at St. James's Hall. This year Mr. Barnby has commenced with a performance of Bach's *Passion Music*. Last year, on the occasion of the performance of this work, and the publication of Novello's cheap edition, we pointed out in some detail the chief attractions of this most remarkable composition. We are glad to find that it has taken its place among recognised public favourites—no longer to be reproduced at rare intervals for the indulgence of a limited circle of cultivated musical virtuosi. Such performances as those given last year and this, by Mr. Barnby, leave no room for doubt that a skilful execution of the *Passion Music* is able to draw as large and appreciative an audience as any other of the master-pieces of our greatest composers. The performance last Wednesday was in every way creditable to the conductor, the soloists, the choir, and the orchestra. The very difficult choruses were sung with a precision and accuracy which left little to be desired: and the chorales, given most judiciously, without any instrumental accompaniment, were rendered with a delicacy and refinement of expression quite unsurpassed in any previous performances that we have heard. The solo performers also executed their parts excellently, and with deserved applause. Mr. Barnby, we observe, included in his programme several portions of the oratorio which were last year omitted. We think it would be well to arrange for a rotation of the omitted portions, so that the whole work may be fully given in two or three successive performances, all of which will probably be soon demanded in one season. We would especially protest against the obstinate exclusion of the highly embellished chorale and chorus which concludes the first part—"O Man, thy Heavy Sin Lament." For the chorus singers it is one of the easiest of all; and although the perpetual recurrence of one kind of musical rhythm gives a sort of monotony which some impatient listeners may at first consider tiresome, yet even this is so fully in keeping with the sentiment of the words, and the reiterated phrase itself so lovely and intelligible, and is moreover varied in so many ways in the harmonies and phrases of counterpoint and imitation associated with it, that the whole effect is admirably artistic; and we know by experience that the oftener it is heard the better it is liked. The greatest number of omissions, however, is in the second part; and it is perhaps impossible to include more than a limited number of airs in two parts with those long *Da Capo* iterations, which are judiciously avoided by modern composers. One of these is written with an instrumental accompaniment for the *Viol di Gamba*, a seven-stringed sort of violoncello, no longer in use. This is, however, one of the most beautiful of the melodies, and ought, by some modification of the score, to be brought within reach of the ordinary viola or violoncello, or a combination of the two.

Reverting to the performance last week, we would especially commend the good taste and true expression in Madame Patey's performance of the very difficult solos assigned to her. The gem of the entire work—the air, "Have Mercy upon Me"—was exquisitely rendered by her. This air has been tossed about from alto to soprano and baritone singers—for we have heard it sung by all these voices—but we think Madame Patey has made it her own in any performance in which she may hereafter take part. Madame Patey's singing has the great, and rather rare, merit of being severely accurate. She reproduces exactly what the composer has written, and indulges in none of those *dulcia vitia* which facile performers are so fond of introducing, alterations, embellishments, florid cadenzas, agonising trills and shakes. Mr. Cummings gave the numerous recitatives assigned to the tenor with good expression and unflinching power, though the physical effort required in going through such a part is immense. The other solo performers were Madame Rudersdorff, Herr Stockhausen, and Mr. J. T. Beale.

We observe that Mr. Barnby announces a performance of Mendelssohn's *Elijah* on the 1st of March, and that a repetition of Beethoven's *Mass* in D is to be one of the features of the series.

THE AMERICAN CENSUS.

The returns of the census of the United States for 1870 have been all received at Washington, and the enumeration has been completed sufficiently to show the total population of the country as compared with the total shown by the census of 1860. There are now thirty-seven States, while in 1860 there were 34, the additional States now having been Territories then.

States.	1861.	1870.
Alabama ..	364,201	996,981
Arkansas ..	435,450	483,179
California ..	379,994	560,285
Connecticut ..	460,147	537,418
Delaware ..	112,216	125,015
Florida ..	140,425	187,756
Georgia ..	1,057,286	1,200,609
Illinois ..	1,711,951	2,539,638
Indiana ..	1,350,428	1,673,046
Iowa ..	673,048	1,191,802
Kansas ..	107,206	362,872
Kentucky ..	1,155,634	1,321,001
Louisiana ..	708,002	732,731
Maine ..	623,279	626,463
Maryland ..	687,049	730,806
Massachusetts ..	1,231,066	1,457,351
Michigan ..	749,113	1,184,296
Minnesota ..	173,855	435,511
Mississippi ..	791,305	834,170
Missouri ..	1,182,012	1,715,000
Nebraska ..	28,841	123,000
Nevada ..	5,357	42,491
N. Hampshire ..	326,073	318,300
New Jersey ..	672,005	905,794
New York ..	3,580,737	4,364,411
North Carolina ..	992,622	1,669,614
Ohio ..	2,339,502	2,659,214
Oregon ..	52,465	90,922
Pennsylvania ..	2,966,115	3,515,993
Rhode Island ..	174,620	217,356
South Carolina ..	703,708	728,000
Tennessee ..	1,109,801	1,257,983
Texas ..	604,215	797,500
Vermont ..	315,098	330,552
Virginia ..	1,596,318	1,224,830
W. Virginia ..	775,881	1,055,167
Wisconsin ..	775,881	1,055,167

Territories, &c.	1861.	1870.
Idaho ..	—	14,998
Washington ..	11,594	23,901
Montana ..	—	20,694
Dakota ..	4,837	14,181
Wyoming ..	—	9,118
District of Columbia ..	75,030	131,080
Utah ..	40,273	36,786
New Mexico ..	93,516	91,852
Arizona ..	—	9,858
Colorado ..	34,277	39,706
	259,577	442,500

Total population of the United States 31,455,080 38,535,153
There is no enumeration of the wild Indian tribes of the West or of those in the Indian territory. Nebraska in 1860 (then a territory) contained a portion of the present territory of Dakota.

NOTICE.—All announcements intended for this column must be accompanied by a remittance of half-a-crown in postage stamps.

Births, Marriages, and Deaths.

MARRIAGE.

WILLIS-BARRETT.—Feb. 16, at Head-gate Chapel, Colchester, by the Rev. E. Miller, B.A., George, second son of George Willis, Esq., Bellport House, Haverstock-hill, London, to Fanny Bridge, younger daughter of Mr. Thomas Barrett, High-street, Colchester.

DEATH.

GODWIN.—Feb. 20, at the residence of his son, John V. Godwin, of Bradford, the Rev. Benjamin Godwin, D.D., in his 86th year.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

(From Wednesday's Gazette.)

An Account, pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th Victoria, cap. 39, for the week ending Wednesday, Feb. 15.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued	£36,216,595	Government Debt £11,015,100
		Other Securities .. 3,984,900
		Gold Coin & Bullion 21,216,595
	£36,216,595	£36,216,595

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietors' Capital £14,553,000	Government Securities (inc. dead weight annuity) £12,915,011
Reserve .. 3,269,984	Other Securities .. 18,728,766
Public Deposits .. 7,740,546	Notes .. 13,000,530
Other Deposits .. 18,930,072	Gold & Silver Coin 668,415
Seven Day and other Bills .. 719,236	
	£45,312,80
	£45,312,802

Feb. 16, 1871.

GEO. FORBES, Chief Cashier.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—Renovating Power.—By every exertion, both of mind and body, the human system is debilitated, and were it not constantly renovated by well-digested food, its vitality would cease. Holloway's Pills are renowned for regulating and perfecting the digestion. They act as alteratives, stimulants, and tonics. They enable the digestive apparatus to obtain the utmost nutrition from the food to supply the daily waste our every movement causes. These excellent family pills may be fearlessly used by all classes and constitutions. They keep every organ in perfect health, and maintain that balance between waste and reproduction so essential to the well-being of both body and mind. Holloway's Pills prevent diseases by purifying the blood and rectifying every function.

Markets.

CORN EXCHANGE, MARK LANE, Monday, Feb. 20.

We had a small show of English wheat at market this morning, most of the samples in poor condition. The sale was slow at a decline of 1s to 2s. per qr. from the prices of Monday last. Foreign wheat sold in retail at a reduction of 1s per qr. The demand for flour for export having ceased, prices are again lower, and the decline from the highest point is 3s. to 4s. per sack and barrel. Peas, beans, barley, and maize are without change in value. The arrivals of oats continuing very small, the business doing is in retail, ex granary, and the prices of this day week were fully maintained. At the ports of call the fresh arrivals are few in number. Buyers wait for expected further arrivals, and business is limited, at a slight reduction in prices.

BREAD, London, Saturday, Feb. 18.—The prices in the Metropolis are, for Wheatens Bread, per 4lbs. loaf 7½d. to 8d. Household Bread, 6½d. to 7d.

METROPOLITAN CATTLE MARKET, Monday, Feb. 20.

—The total imports of foreign stock into London last week amounted to 3,932 head. In the corresponding week in 1870 we received 3,428; in 1869, 6,613; in 1868, 848; and in 1867, 4,118 head. There has been a want of animation in the cattle trade to-day. Increased supplies of stock have been on offer, and prices have favoured purchasers. The supply of beasts has been more liberal, owing to the arrival of a fair number of Spanish. In all breeds sales have progressed slowly at a reduction of 2d. per 8lbs. The best 800's and crosses have been disposed of at 5s. 6d. to 5s. 8d. per 8lbs. From Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex, and Cambridgeshire we received about 1,750 Scots and crosses, from other parts of England about 250 various breeds; from Scotland, 163 Scots and crosses, and from Ireland about 230 oxen. There has been a fair show of sheep in the pens. Trade has been dull; but prices, although tending downwards, have not been notably lower. For the best Downs and half-breeds the extreme quotation has been 6s. per 8lbs. Lambs, of which a fair supply has been on offer, have sold at 8s. per 8lbs. Calves have been in limited request, and the demand for pigs has been inactive.

For 8lbs. to sink the Offal.

	s. d.	s. d.		s. d.	s. d.
Inf. coarse beasts	3 2 to 4 0	Prime Scuthdowns	5 10 to 6 0		
Second quality	4 2 to 4 6	Lambs	0 0 to 0 0		
Prime large oxen	5 0 to 5 4	Lge. coarse calves	3 8 to 4 0		
Prime So. to, &c.	5 6 to 5 8	Prime small	5 0 to 5 0		
Coarse inf. sheep	3 4 to 3 8	Large hogs	3 6 to 4 0		
Second quality	4 2 to 4 6	Neaten. porkers	4 6 to 5 2		
Pr. coarse woolled	5 0 to 5 8				

Smoking calves, —s. to —s., and Quarter-old store pigs, 22s. to 25s. each.

METROPOLITAN MEAT MARKET, Monday, Feb. 20.

Our market has been fairly supplied with meat. The trade has been quiet, at our quotations. The import into London last week consisted of 104 packages from Gluckstadt, 34 Antwerp, and 316 Ostend.

Per 8lbs. by the carcase.

	s. d.	s. d.		s. d.	s. d.
Inferior beef	3 4 to 4 0	Prime ditto	4 10 to 5 2		
Middling ditto	4 0 to 4 4	Veal	5 0 to 5 4		
Prime large do.	4 8 to 5 0	Large pork	3 8 to 4 2		
Do. small do.	5 0 to 5 2	Small pork	4 0 to 5 0		
Inf. mutton	3 8 to 4 0	Lamb	6 0 to 7 5		
Middling ditto	4 0 to 4 4				

PROVISIONS, Monday, Feb. 20.—The arrivals last week from Ireland were 181 firkins butter and 2,623 bales bacon, and from foreign ports 12,937 packages butter, 162 bales, and 199 boxes bacon. There is very little fine butter for sale, either Irish or foreign, and such commands extreme prices. The bacon market further declines 1s. to 2s. per cwt., and as the close of the week there was more business transacted, the prices being moderate, and 10s. per cwt. lower than this time last year; best Waterford, 6s. on board for a table.

COVENT GARDEN MARKET, Saturday, Feb. 18.—We have to report a little improvement in the trade, both for our own market and the provincial ones; quotations are rather high for articles of good quality, which we may expect will continue. Foreign importations in Apples, Oranges, and Lemons are heavy. Large shipments of Potatoes for France will improve prices of inferior kinds; best qualities are without alteration. Amongst flowers we have Uchids, Heaths, Cyclamens, Primulas, Hyacinths, Tulips, Camellias, Lily of the Valley, Pelargoniums, and Cytisus racemosa.

BOROUGH HOP MARKET, Monday, Feb. 27.—The improved character of our trade noticed in our last report has been fully maintained by the transactions of the past week several of our large consumers having been on the market. All classes of hops have attention, and finer sorts are held firmly for higher figures. The advance in the foreign market, quoted in our last, is well maintained and a good demand exists, especially for the choicest grades. Latest advices from New York report the market inactive, there being only a slight inquiry for choice qualities. Imports up to the present date amount to 24,039 bales. Mid and East Kent, 2l. 0s., 3l. 10s., to 7l. 0s.; Wexley, 2l. 0s., 3l. 10s., to 3l. 15s.; Sussex, 1l. 15s., 2l. 5s. to 3l. 10s.; Farnham and country, 3l. 15s., 4l. 15s., to 5l. 12s.; Olds, 1l. 0s., 1l. 15s., to 2l. 10s.

POTATOES.—BOROUGH AND SPITALFIELDS.—Monday, Feb. 20.—Large supplies of potatoes have been on sale at these markets. The trade has been quiet at our quotations. English Shaws, 80s. to 110s. per ton; English Regents, 70s. to 90s. per ton; Scotch Regents, 75s. to 90s. per ton; Roan, 65s. to 7s. per ton.

SEED, Monday, Feb. 20.—There was a fair quantity of English Cloverseed offering; the finest qualities of which brought very high prices. American descriptions were in steady demand for France, at rather more money for approved sample. White seed was quite as dear. The best trefoil realised fully as much money, with a good demand. There was no quotable change in either brown or white mustard seed. Canaryseed brought full prices. Foreign tares were more inquired for, and prices were generally quoted higher. Large new Brunswick are much wanted, and would fetch higher prices. Grass seeds continue in demand, at rather improving rates.

WOOL, Monday, Feb. 20.—The quotations for English wool have been well supported during the past week, though the transactions have been on a somewhat limited scale. Sales were chiefly confined to lustres and demi-lustres, as for some time past, and prices were steadily maintained. Middle were in quiet demand. At the colonial wool sales the attendance has been good, German buyers being somewhat numerous, and the opening advance has been well supported.

TALLOW, Monday, Feb. 20.—The market has been quiet. Y.O., spot, 45s. 3d. per cwt. Town tallow, 44s. 6d. net cash.

COAL, Monday, Feb. 20.—A heavy market, at last day's rates. Caradoc Wallsend, 19s. 3d.; Elliot ditto, 19s. 3d.; Hetton ditto, 20s.; Haswell ditto, 19s. 6d.; Hartlepool ditto, 19s. 6d.; Kellie ditto, 19s. 3d.; Hartleys, 15s. 9d. Ships fresh arrived, 6s. at sea, 13s.

QUININE WINE—as supplied to the Sick and Wounded.—The many and expensive forms in which this well-known medicine is administered too often preclude its adoption as a general tonic. The success which has attended Watson's Quinine Wine arises from its careful preparation by the manufacturer. Each wineglassful contains sufficient quinine to make it an excellent restorative to the weak. It behooves the public to see that they have Watson's Quinine Wine, for the result of Chancery proceedings, a short time since, elicited the fact that one unprincipled imitator did not use quinine in the manufacture of his wine. All Grocers sell Watson's Quinine Wine, at 50s. per dozen. Watson and Williams, Original Makers, Worcester House, 21, Eastcheap, London. Agents, E. Lewis and Co., Worcester.

Advertisements.

HOUSEKEEPER, Companion, or to Assist a Lady in the Care of her Family.—REQUIRED by a YOUNG LADY, domesticated and accustomed to children. Congregationalist. Highest references given.—Address, M. A. B., Railway-villa, Kettering.

EVANGELICAL CONTINENTAL SOCIETY.—SPECIAL APPEAL.—The war having cut off the resources of the Evangelical Societies on the Continent, the Committee appeal very earnestly for special contributions to enable them to maintain the Evangelists, and to RELIEVE the DISTRESS of the SUFFERERS.

J. CROSSLEY, Treasurer.
J. SHEDLOCK, Secretary.

7, Blomfield-street, E.C.

CENTRAL NONCONFORMIST COMMITTEE,
86, NEW STREET, BIRMINGHAM.

"PRACTICAL SUGGESTIONS for the FORMATION OF SCHOOL BOARDS."

Also, just published, price 2d.

THE SPEECH of MR. R. W. DALE, M.A., at the BIRMINGHAM SCHOOL, on the "Proposed Payment of the School Fees of Children attending Denominational Schools."

May be had from the Publishers, Messrs. Hudson and Son, Birmingham; or from the Secretary, at the Office of the Committee.

NEW CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, CAMBRIDGE.

Cambridge, though a University town of thirty thousand inhabitants, has but one Congregational place of worship, and this a small, unlighty structure, erected eighty years ago, now hidden away in a back lane, and without schoolrooms, classrooms, or accommodation for week-day services.

Within the last fifty years the Episcopalians have built four, and other denominations seven, additional places of worship; and there is urgent need for a new Congregational church.

To this end about five thousand pounds has been already subscribed, which would have been sufficient for the requirements of the present congregation, had not the Committee expended two thousand eight hundred pounds of this sum to secure a site in the principal street of the town. This they did, at the request of a very influential friend and subscriber, the better to meet the wants of the increasing number of sons of Dissenting families which even the prospect of an early abolition of Tests attracts to the University.

To erect on this new site a commodious edifice, and one in keeping with its surroundings, a further sum of four thousand pounds is required.

For this amount the Committee appeal to the whole Congregational body.

Their project has assumed dimensions necessitating such a public appeal, just because they have had regard to interests wider than their own. A Congregational church at Cambridge must be representative, and ought to be attractive to the Nonconformist students in the University.

On these grounds the Committee confidently solicit, for an undertaking whose claims all Nonconformists will recognize, such generous support as will ensure its realization.

SUBSCRIPTIONS will be received by—

Messrs. FOSTER, Bankers,
Rev. JAMES WARD, B.A., 5, Downing-terrace, } Cambridge.
Mr. WILLIAM BOND, Brookside,
(Treasurer.)

The following sums have been already promised:—

Mr. Francis Crossley, Bart., M.P.	£200 0 0
And the offer of a Loan of £250 without interest, to be returned to the English Chapel Building Society within 10 years.	
English Chapel Building Society	500 0 0
Fennell Morley, Esq., M.P.	50 0 0
J. Remington Milne, Esq.	250 0 0
Titus Salt, Esq.	50 0 0
John Crossley, Esq., Halifax	300 0 0
William Armitage, Esq., Manchester	100 0 0
John Finch, Esq., Tunbridge Wells	100 0 0
Richard Johnson, Esq., Manchester	100 0 0
Charles Jupp, Esq., Wrexham	100 0 0
Trustees of Coward Fund	100 0 0
Samuel Watts, Esq., Manchester	100 0 0
Mr. James Watts, ditto	100 0 0
Joshua Wilson, Esq., Tunbridge Wells	10 0 0
A Friend, per Rev. A. Norris	50 0 0
George Haddfield, Esq., Manchester	50 0 0
Abraham Haworth, Esq., Manchester	50 0 0
T. W. Hope, Esq., Liverpool	50 0 0
Thomas Hunter, Esq., Manchester	50 0 0
Henry Lee, Esq., ditto	50 0 0
Thomas Roberts, Esq., ditto	50 0 0
William Somerville, Esq., Bristol	50 0 0
James Haworth, Esq., Manchester	15 0 0
J. Rigby, Esq., ditto	25 0 0
Joseph Thompson, Esq., ditto	25 0 0
W. Woodward, Esq., ditto	25 0 0
Hugh Mason, Esq., Ashton	21 0 0
H. Deham, Esq., Bristol	20 0 0
William Crossfield, Esq., Liverpool	20 0 0
W. E. Molland, Esq., Manchester	50 0 0
Charles Reed, Esq., M.P.	15 0 0
E. Baines, Esq., M.P.	10 0 0
J. O. Jones, Esq., Liverpool	10 0 0
H. Bymer, Esq., Manchester	10 0 0
H. O. Wille, Esq., Bristol	10 0 0
Fer. G. C. Whiteley, Esq., B.A.	10 10 0
G. F. Whiteley, Esq., Richmond	5 5 0
W. H. Wharton, Esq., London	5 5 0
J. C. Needham, Esq., Manchester	5 0 0
Rev. W. C. Stallybrass, Brixton	5 0 0
E. Spencer, Esq., Manchester	5 0 0
Other subscriptions	10 8 0
Subscribed by the Congregation and Friends at Cambridge	1946 0 0

It is hoped that, by the help of friends in the town and neighbourhood this sum will be increased to £2,500.

BONUS YEAR—SPECIAL NOTICE.

CLERICAL, MEDICAL, and GENERAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY.

ANNUAL INCOME, steadily increasing, £230,355.
ASSURANCE FUND, safely invested, £1,707,769.

The NINTH BONUS will be declared in JANUARY, 1872, and all With-Profit Policies in existence on the 10th June, 1871, will participate, so that Persons who complete such Assurances before June 30th next, will share in that Division, although one Premium only will have been paid.

Report and Balance Sheets, Forms of Proposal, and every information, can be obtained of

GEORGE CUTCLIFFE, Actuary and Secretary,
13, St. James's-square, London, S.W.

ALEXANDRA ORPHANAGE for INFANTS, HORNSEY RISE, near HIGHGATE, N.

The FIRST PUBLIC FESTIVAL on WEDNESDAY, March 8th, 1871, CITY TERMINUS HOTEL, CANNON STREET.

Lord GEORGE HAMILTON, M.P., will preside.

Names of Stewards will greatly oblige. Stewards are only responsible for the expense of their Dinner Ticket.

JOSEPH SOUL, Hon. Secretary.

Tickets for Gentlemen, 2s.; for Ladies, 12s. 6d., are now ready, and may be obtained at the Office of the Charity, 73, Cheapside.

CAMBRIDGE EXAMINATION FOR WOMEN.—LONDON CENTRE.

The NEXT EXAMINATION will be held on JULY 3rd 1871. Candidates must give notice of their wish to enter by March 15. Information as to Preparatory Classes, &c., will be given by the

Hon. Sec., Miss E. BONHAM CARTER.

Ravensbourne, Beckenham.

NOTICE OF REMOVAL.

Mr. COCKE BAINES, Surveyor and Valuer, begs to INFORM his Friends that he has REMOVED from 106, Cheapside, to No. 26, FINSBURY-PLACE, MOORGATE-STREET, E.C., where all future communications are requested to be addressed.

January, 1871.

THE REFORMED FUNERALS COMPANY (Limited),

15, Langham-place, Regent-street, W.

Capital, £10,000, in 2,000 shares of £5 each.
£1 per share payable on application, £2 on allotment, and £2 not less than six months after allotment.

BANKERS—Williams, Deacon, and Co., Birch Lane, E.C.

ABRIDGED PROSPECTUS.

The Company proposes to effect a reformation of the existing funeral customs, which are so universally deplored. Its aim will be—by the employment of unique and very superior Hearse and Mourning Carriages of appropriately plain, yet hand-some and artistic design, with experienced attendants of high character and respectability, and by dispensing with the accustomed professional pageantry and meaningless display—to conduct funerals with a degree of solemnity and decorum unattainable under the present system.

The Directors are so confident of the success of the undertaking, established in a Metropolis where more than 70,000 funerals are taking place every year, that they and their friends have agreed to take up 400 shares of the Company; and they appeal for support to the good sense of all classes of the community.

The Articles of Association, and Drawings of the Hearse and Mourning Carriages (Registered) can be seen at the Offices of the Company, where prospectuses and all further particulars can be obtained.

AGENTS required in all parts of the Metropolis.

CONTINENTAL EDUCATION.

42, Kensington-gardens-square, W. The Misses RHEDLOCK (diplomés) assisted by resident French and German Governesses, and experienced Professors, RECEIVE a limited number of BOARDERS, to whom they offer all the comforts of home and a complete education in the Continental systems. Reference, Rev. J. Sheddock, M.A., 7, Blomfield-street, E.C.

OBERLIN HOUSE, 18, and 19, WEST BRIXTON.

SCHOOL for SONS OF GENTLEMEN, Established Twenty-three years.

The Upper School prepares for business, the Civil Service and the Universities, where former pupils have gained the highest honours. The Preparatory School conducted by a qualified lady. Terms moderate. References permitted to parents and old pupils.

For particulars, apply to Messrs. S. J. Wilkins, and E. M. Dillon, M.A., Principals.

STROUD LADIES' COLLEGE, BEECHES-GREEN, STROUD, GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

Principals—The Misses HOWARD.

Resident English, French, and German Governesses.

Attendant Professors.

Reports monthly. Test Examinations every term.

This College educates Daughters of Gentlemen and Professional Men.

The house is large, airy, and well situated, and has an ample lawn for out-door recreation.

The Misses Howard aim to secure for their Pupils a sound literary and intellectual culture, refined manners, together with a healthy Christian and moral training.

Prospectus, with references and copies of Examination Papers, on application.

HALF TERM will COMMENCE THURSDAY, March 9th.

HEATHFIELD, STONYGATE, LEICESTER.

EDUCATION FOR YOUNG LADIES

CONDUCTED BY THE MISS MIAL.

MASTERS.

French and Italian	Mons. C. C. Caillard.
German	Mdlle. Hottinger.
Musical Singing	J. Faville Stone, Esq., Associate, Royal Academy.
Drawing and Painting	J. Hoch, Esq.
Dancing and Calisthenics	Mdlle. L'Anglois.
Chemistry	Dr. Albert J. Bernays, Professor of Chemistry at St. Thomas Hospital, London.
Arithmetic	Mr. J. Hepworth.

The above branches of education are taught exclusively by the Masters assigned to them. The general English education is under the immediate direction of the Principals and a competent staff of Governesses.

Terms forwarded on application.

LADIES' CORK-SOLED BOOTS

For damp weather, 21s.; Kid double-soled Boots, 16s. 6d.; Velvet Fanned-lined Boots, 5s. 6d.; Velvet Slippers, 3s. 6d. Illustrated Catalogues, post free, with notice of convenient arrangements for country Residents.

THOMAS D. MARSHALL, 192, Oxford-street, London.

KAYE'S WORSDELL'S PILLS.

The best, safest, and most certain Family Medicine that has yet been discovered. Being composed of nothing but the purest vegetable ingredients, they are suitable for either sex. They are equally valuable for curing and preventing disease.

Sold by all Chemists and other Dealers in Patent Medicines, at 1s. 1d., 2s. 1d., and 4s. 6d. per box.

MILL HILL SCHOOL, MIDDLESEX.

HEAD MASTER—

RICHARD F. WEYMOUTH, Esq., D. Litt. and M.A., Fellow of Univ. Coll., Lond.; Member of the Council of the Philological Society, &c., &c.

SECOND MASTER—

J. H. TAYLOR, Esq., M.A., Queen's Coll., Oxford; Double First in Moderations, and 2nd Class in the Final Classical School; Scholar (B.A.) of Trin. Coll., Camb., 14th in 1st Class in Classical Tripos, and 1st Chancellor's Medallist, 1868.

ASSISTANT MASTERS—

A. H. SCOTT WHITE, Esq., B.A., Prizeman in Anglo-Saxon and Early English of Univ. Coll., Lond. n.

JAMES A. H. MURRAY, Esq., F.E.S., Member of the Council of the Philological Society, one of the Editors of the Publications of the Early English Text Society, Author of "The Dialect of the Southern Counties of Scotland," &c., &c.

JAMES NETTLESHIP, Esq., B.A. Scholar and Prizeman of Christ's Coll., Camb.; 2nd Class Classical Tripos, 1866.

For Prospectuses and further information apply to the Head Master, at the School, or to the Secretary, the Rev. R. H. MARTEN, B.A., Lee, S.E.

VICTORIA VILLA, FINCHLEY, N.

ESTABLISHMENT for YOUNG LADIES, Conducted by MRS. WASHINGTON WILKS. The course of instruction embraces the usual branches of a thorough English education, with the French and German Languages; also Piano, Singing, and Drawing taught by competent Masters.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC.—Novel

and bona fide character of the CHRISTMAS HOLIDAY ENTERTAINMENTS. PROFESSOR PRPPER ON THE WAR, AND THE DESTRUCTIVE IMPLEMENTS USED THEREAT! MR. GEORGE GROSSMITH, Jun., gives the prettiest Fairy Tale, entitled THE YELLO DWARF, every Evening; and Mr. SUCHET CHAMPION the same in the Mornings, with vocal illustrations. Engagement of the Original Warlock, Mr. J. BEAUMONT, for THE WORLD OF MAGIC, and his Curious Slack Rope Automaton.—Entertainment by Mr. W. D. DAVIES, Premier Ventriloquist, entitled THE FUNNIEST OF FUNNY FOLKS! MADAME BOUSFIELD'S GRECIAN STATUARY in White Marble—The PRAEGER FAMILY—New Ghost Entertainment—A Machine-made Watch, and Christmas and Christmas Customs, by J. L. KING, Esq., at the ROYAL POLYTECHNIC. Admission to the whole, One Shilling.

LONDON.—SHIRLEY'S TEMPERANCE

HOTEL, 27, Queen's-square, Bloomsbury, W.C. Beds from 1s. 6d. Plain Breakfast or Tea, 1s. 3d.

See Testimonials, of which there are a thousand in the Visitors' Book.

"We are more than satisfied; we are truly delighted to find in London so quiet and comfortable a domicile. We shall certainly highly recommend Shirley's to all our friends."—J. ROBERTS, Bourne.

"As on all previous visits, I can testify that this is the most comfortable home I find when away from home."—W. B. HARVEY, Frome.

"After visiting various places in England, I have come to consider Shirley's (in view of its combining the greatest comfort and respectability, with the most moderate charges) as the Temperance Hotel par excellence."—J. K. KARMER, Toronto, C.W.

MONEY.—LOANS Granted, from £100 to

£2,000, at 5 per cent, repayable over three years, on Personal Security and Life Policies effected with the WEST OF ENGLAND INSURANCE CO. (Established 1807).—Apply to J. CROCKER, Agency Superintendent, GATESHEAD-ON-TYNE. Agents wanted

OSLER'S GLASS CHANDELIER.

TABLE GLASS OF ALL KINDS.

CHANDELIER IN BRONZE AND ORMOLU.

Moderator Lamps, and Lamps for India.

LONDON—Show Rooms, 45, OXFORD-STREET, W.

BIRMINGHAM—Manufactory and Show Rooms, Broad-street

BREAKFAST.—EPFS'S COCOA.

Grateful and Comforting.

Sold only in tin-lined packets, labelled—

JAMES EPFS and Co., Homoeopathic Chemists, London.

AN EVENING DRINK.—CACAOINE.

Cacao Nibs on the removal of the oil fall into powder, and this powder is Cacaoine. Cacaoine contains neither sugar nor any other admixture whatever. Cacaoine makes one of the lightest, thinnest of warm drinks, and is the most desirable of all for use in the warm hours of the day.

Cacaoine, by reason of the ingenious method by which the oil is removed, preserves all the fine natural flavour of cacao nibs.

JAMES EPFS and Co., Homoeopathic Chemists, London.

HORNIMAN'S TEA

the Purest, Strongest, Cheapest, and Best.

Prices, 2s. 4d.—2s. 8d.—3s.—3s. 4d. & 3s. 8d. lb.

Genuine packets signed W. A. F. Horniman & Co.

Original Importers of the Pure Tea, free from mineral poisons

2,538 AGENTS ARE APPOINTED—

CHEMISTS, &c., in the COUNTRY—

CONFECTIONERS in LONDON.

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Published by ARTHUR MIALI, at No. 18, Boulevard-street, London; and Printed by ROBERT KINGSTON BURT, Wine-office-court, Fleet-street, London.—Wednesday, February 22, 1871.